#02
FINAL

SASAMEKE

Presented by RYUJI×GOTSUBO

SASAMEKE

Presented by

RYUJI X GOTSUBO

SASAMEKE 02 CONTENTS

#14 DON'T WAIT FOR THE HERO ... 005

#15 YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT ... 035

#16 I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SKY ... 085

#17 SMALL WORLD OF TROUBLE ... 119

#18 A PREDATOR'S PORTRAIT ... 151

#19 BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL ... 183

#20 THESE ARE THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES ... 215

#21 IT'S GOOD, BUT IT JUST AIN'T RIGHT ... 263

#22 WHAT IS AND WHAT SHOULD NEVER BE ... 299

#23 HEY HEY, WHAT CAN I DO? ... 331

#24 NOTHIN' BUT TROUBLE ... 363

#25 A SONG FOR THE OUTCAST ... 393

omake

☆03 THE WHISPERING KICKER OF YOUTH ... 068

AFTERWORD VOL. 3 ... 077

☆04 THE WHISPERING KICKEST OF YOUTH ... 248

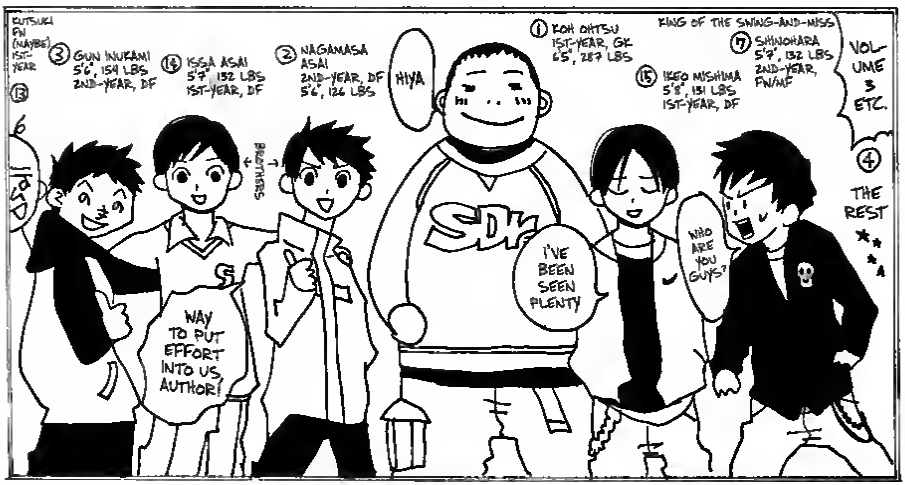
AFTERWORD VOL. 4 ... 257

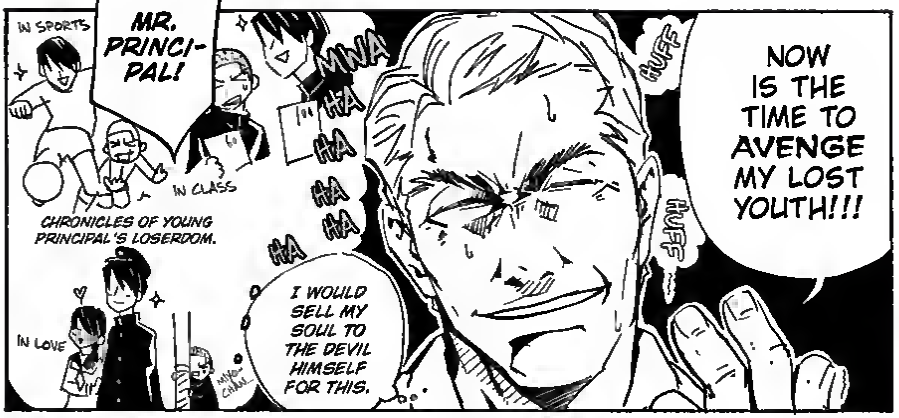
☆05 WHISPERS OF YOUTH: WORDPLAY ROYALE ... 428

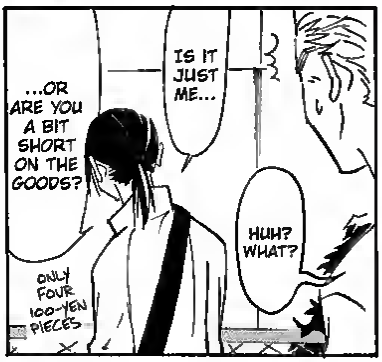
AFTERWORD VOL 5 ... 437

...BUT I TRULY WISH TO STICK IT IN THE CRAW OF THAT LOATHSOME PRINCIPAL OF KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH!
HA HA HA HA HA.
HEH HEH HEH HEH ...
I HATE TO SOUND LIKE A BROKEN RECORD ...
MR. PRINCIPAL
PITA (STOP)
TWO MORE GAMES UNTIL THE FINAL.
I HOPE YOU'LL REPEAT THAT LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE IN TODAY'S GAME.
GOSU (RUSTLE)
GASA (RUSTLE)

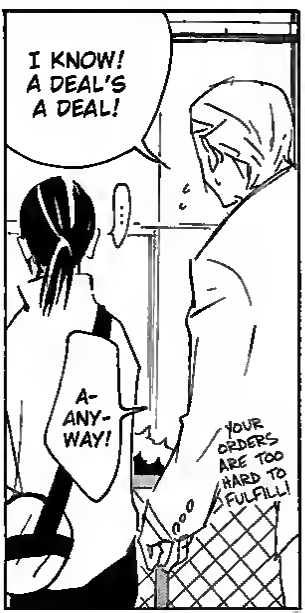
CASE: DURALUMIN


OUTSIDE FW (MAYBE) 1ST-YEAR
13
3 GUN INUKAMI 5'6", 154 LBS 2ND-YEAR, DF
14 ISSA ASAI 5'7", 132 LBS 1ST-YEAR, DF
2 NAGAMASA ASAI 2ND-YEAR, DF 5'6", 126 LBS
HIYA
1 KOH OHTSU 1ST-YEAR, GK 6'5", 287 LBS
KING OF THE SWING-AND-MISS
7 SHINOHARA 5'9", 132 LBS 2ND-YEAR, FW/MF
15 IKEO MISHIMA 5'8", 131 LBS 1ST-YEAR, DF
VOLUME 3 ETC.
4 THE REST
BROTHERS
WAY TO PUT EFFORT INTO US, AUTHOR!
I'VE BEEN SEEN PLENTY
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
THESE GUYS ARE ALL TEMPORARY





SFX. MOKU (PLIFF) MOKU



WELL, THAT SUCKS!
ZAWA
ZAWA CMURMURO
ARE YOU SERIOUS!?
GAYA
GAYA CMURMURO
HUH!?
SFX. ZAWA ZAWA
SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE FANS OF AZUCHI-SENPAI.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
...AZUCHI'S NOT HERE TODAY! HE'S INJURED!
SHUT UP!
SO JEALOUS
NOOO!
I TOLD YOU ...
BRING HIM OUT, BALDY!
SCREW YOU GUYS!
SHUT UP
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, AZUCHI-KUN ISN'T HERE?
KASHAN CLANK
WAAAH!
POOON CHOOO
WHAT A GLOOMY DAY...

OKAY.
PACHI (PWAP)
C'MON, GUYS! LET'S GET STRETCHING! WARM-UPS!!
WAS HE ALWAYS ON THE TEAM?
WAIT, WHO'S THAT?
OOH! ♥ HE'S COOL.
KYAAA!
WAAAH!
KYAAA!
DOU (BLUSH)
HAH?
DOKI (BADUM)
HEY! TELL US HIS NAME, BALDY MCBALDER-SON!
DOBA (ZWISH)
WHAT'S THAT POSE FOR?
DOM-BABA!
TODAY'S THE BIG DAY! IT'S THE THIRD ROUND, THE QUARTER-FINALS OF THE PREFECTURAL PRELIMS!! AZUCHI MIGHT BE TAKING LEAVE FOR HIS HEALTH...
(AND HE ISN'T EVEN HERE TO WATCH, THE HEARTLESS BASTARD!)
...BUT! NEVER FEAR!! TODAY'S OUR LUCKY DAY BECAUSE THIS TIME WE'LL HAVE MAIBARA, WHO WAS A HUGE CONTRIBUTOR LAST GAME, FOR THE ENTIRE MATCH!
☆

TAAAAAH!
PAKON (THWAP)
...BUT FOR SOME REASON, RAKUICHI AND MATSURI AREN'T HERE!! WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON!!?
PWAH!
WHY ME?
GOD-DAMN!
WE'RE GONNA TEAR INTO 'EM AND WIN AGAIN TODAY, BOYS!!!
NEE HEE HEE!
ISN'T IT CUSTOMARY FOR MATSURI-SENPAI NOT TO SHOW UP FOR THE GAME?
YOUKAICHI, TALKING BACK TO ME!?
OH?
I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL YOUR THINKING ON THIS IS NAIVE, SENSEI...
CHIKIBUSH
MEANWHILE, MATSURI...
MORON!
ZUBISHI (JAB)
SO DON'T YELL AT US IF WE DON'T WI—
OUCH.
BWAHH.
IT WOULD BE WEIRDER IF HE ACTUALLY WERE HERE. IN FACT, IT'S PRACTICALLY A MIRACLE OUR TEAM REACHED THE THIRD ROUND IN THE FIRST PLACE!

WHAT'S WRONG, SIR?
MU (SHOCK)
!
YORO (WOBBLE) YORO
URRGH ...
OH DEAR...
...WAS LOST.
IRA (IRK)
IRA
IRA
MUKA (GRR)
MUKA
HURK!
MAYBE I'LL JUST GO HOME.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? DO YOU NEED AN AMBULANCE?
O-OH, JUST ANOTHER CRAMP...
NO, THANK YOU
GUFH!
GUFH!
THAT'S... VERY KIND OF YOU.
PI (FWEET)
TO (TOKK)

...CONVERTING TAGA-SENPAI TO A CENTER FORWARD RIGHT BEFORE THE GAME CAN'T POSSIBLY WORK...
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
WAIT ...
SHAKIN' (SHIVERING)
BA (ZIP)
IS HE FOREIGN?
CHIKUMASHIMA
5
WELL, WE DON'T EXACTLY HAVE A TRUE FORWARD ON OUR TEAM. I FIGURE IF WE PLACE A BIG GUY AT THE TOP, HE'LL DRAW ALL THE ATTENTION.
ANTONIO'S AT LEAST 6'3" WITH THE AFRO.
AND HE LOOKS THE PART.
THIS IS LIKE, LITTLE KID STRATEGY.
THIS IS SETA'S DESPERATION PLAN!
WE CAN'T HELP IT! WE DON'T HAVE THE PLAYERS!
BESIDES, THE COACH IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY!
SO IF THIS SCREWS UP, BLAME HIM!
MAIBARA
<< TODAY >>
<< BEST >>
HMM.
ANYWAYS, SINCE MAIBARA IS THE BEST PLAYER ON THE FIELD, WE'LL PLACE HIM IN THE MIDDLE AND HOPE TO SCORE FIRST BEFORE THEY REALIZE WHAT'S GOING ON.

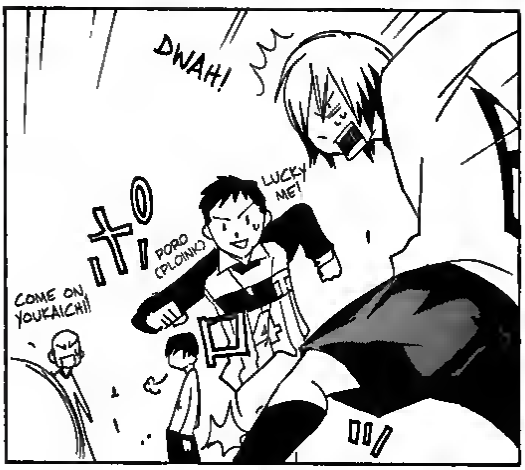
PROBABLY.
WAAAH!
BUT HEY, TODAY'S OPPONENT IS ONE OF THE BETTER UNIVERSITY FEEDER SCHOOLS IN THE PREFECTURE. THEY CAN'T BE THAT GOOD!
(*BIWAKO ASSUMES THAT SMART STUDENTS AREN'T GOOD AT SPORTS!)
WE'D GET OUR ASSES KICKED IN AN ACADEMIC CONTEST, THOUGH. (EXCEPT FOR AZUCHI.)
...BUT THESE CHUMPS WON'T BEAT ME AT SOCCER!
HMPH! I MIGHT LOSE AT TESTS...
TON (TMP)
OH NO ...
GA (THWACK)
NICE CUT!
AUGH!
SLIJAAAA (SLIDE)
HHHHH.
WELP, JUST LIKE USUAL.
YOU-KA-ICHI-KUN!
TS° PA (PLIK)

YEAH!
BA (ZIP)
HERE WE GO!
TA (TEK)
INAE-CHAN
AND THEY'RE SMART TOO!
HEE!
OOH! THEY'RE NOT TOO BAD-LOOKING!
BA (WHOOSH)
MAKI-NO!
PAMI!
BO (BOOT)
MAKE SURE TO WAIT ON THE FOLLOW-UP!
SPREAD OUT ON THE SIDES!
OKAY!

NICE PASS!
CAPTAIN!
BON (BOMP)
MAIBARA-SENPAI!
SU (SHHK)
!

I SCREWED UP AGAIN!
AHHH! I'M SORRY (X3)!
COME ON, SHINO-HARA!!
EEEP!
GODDAMN!
SHINOHARA-SENPAI...
ACK!
DORO (PLOP)
CHIN (TING)
4
SU (SHK)
CLEARLY
YOU'RE THE BEST, SENPAI!!
THAT #4'S PRETTY GOOD...
.....

BA
BA (ZIP)

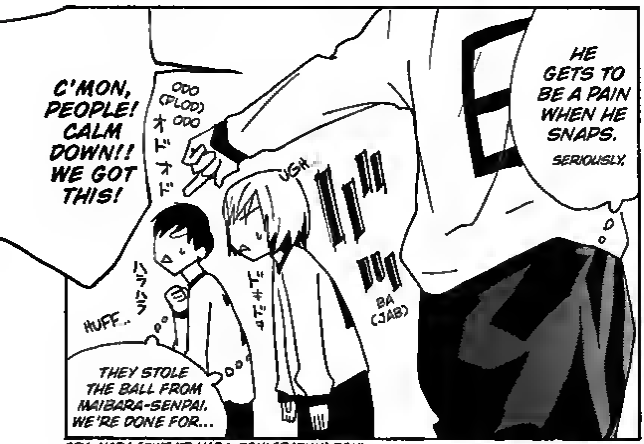

DWAH!
LUCKY ME!
PORO (PLOINK)
COME ON YOUKAICHI!

JUST DON'T LET THAT #4 GET FREE WITH THE BALL!
OKAY!

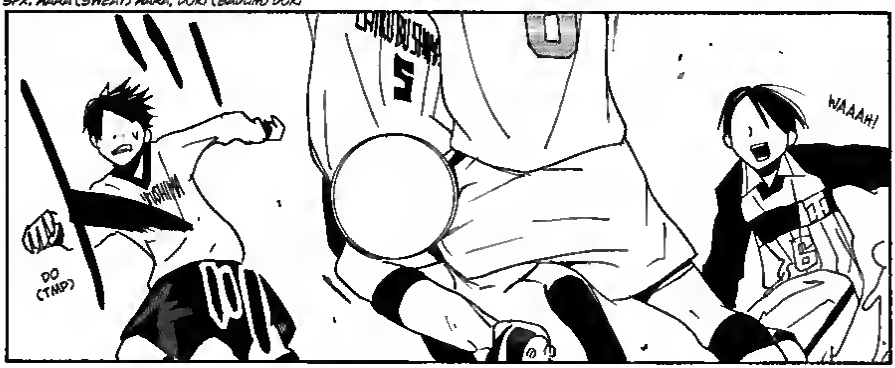
KEEP IT UUUP!
KYAA!
YUKIIII (SQUEAL)
SHUDDUP
NOT YOU TOO, INAE...

SHIRT: JORGE

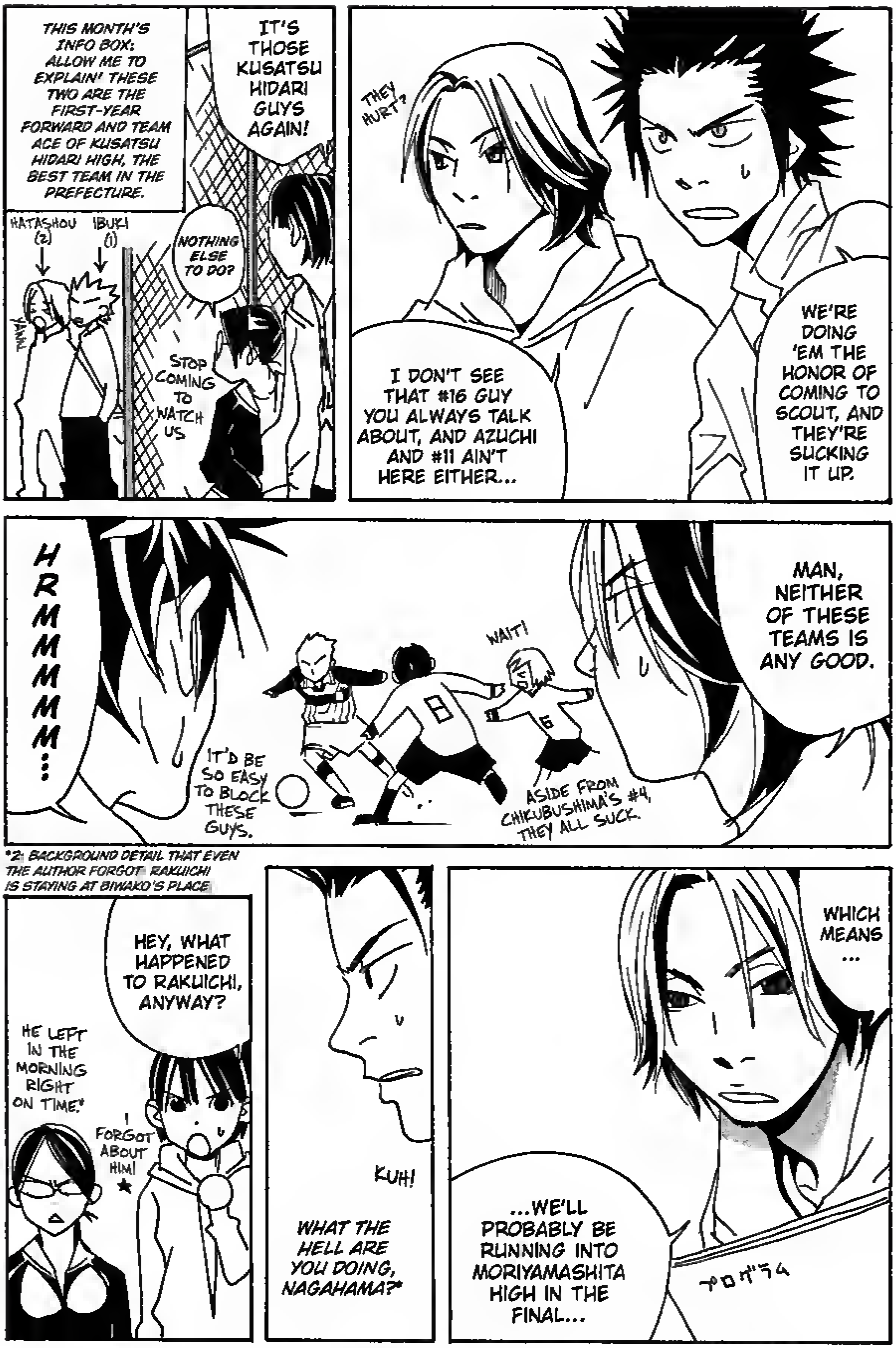
GUI
GUI (SHOVE)
...I DON'T CARE IF YOU HAVE TO BE ROUGH...
...JUST TAKE THAT #4 OUT OF THE GAME!
GA (CHAK)
BA (ZWIP)
GAGA (THWACK)
GUI (SHOVE)
I DON'T CARE IF YOU HAVE TO LEAVE #6 AND #7 UNGUARDED ...
GOOOOO!
GOOD LUCK!
TEARS ARE THE SWEAT OF THE HEART!!!
"TAAA!"
CAPTAIN! ☆
TORAHIGE HIGH BENCH
BACKUPS
COACH
MANAGER
MAKINO!
PASHI (SHWAK)
UGH
BO (BOMP)
RAHHH!



SFX. HARA (SWEAT) HARA, DOKI (BADUM) DOKI

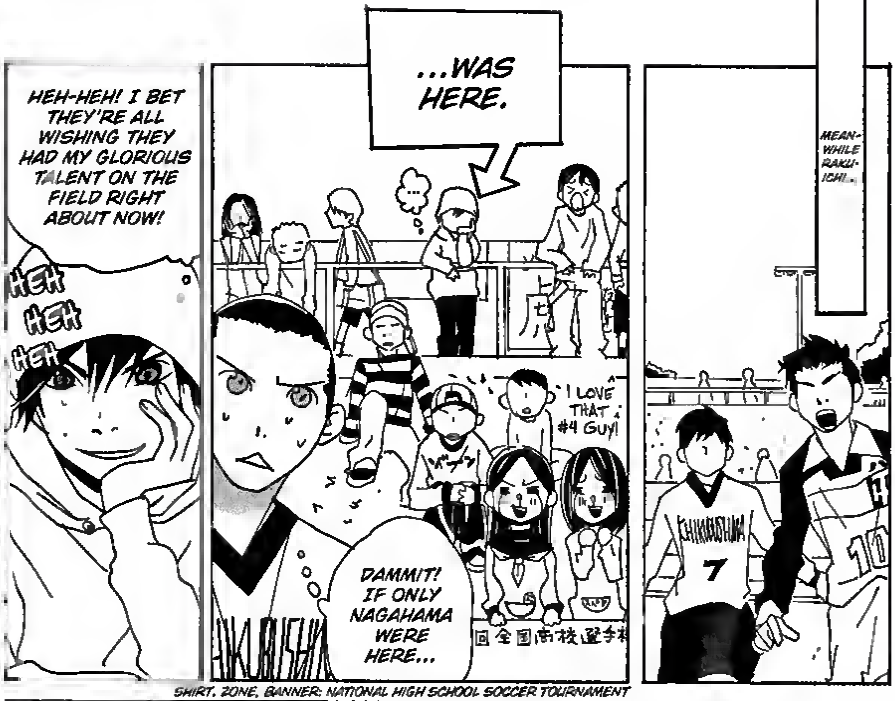


ALL RIGHT, TEAM!
LET'S GET OUT THERE AND SCORE!!
YEAH!
AFTER THAT...
YAAAY!
THAT'S RIGHT! EVERYONE ON THE SAME PAGE!
KEEP WORKING AT IT, BOYS!
YOU KIDS ARE BEAUTIFUL
HEE HEE!
KASHA (CLANK)
...WHY?
MEANWHILE, THE NOT-SO-MIGHTY-BUT-MOTIVATED-AND-TEAMWORK-HEAVY TORAHIGE WAS INCHING CLOSER AND CLOSER TO A GOAL AROUND THEIR CAPTAIN.
...CHIKUBUSHIMA WON THE BATTLE OF POSSESSION, BUT A SERIES OF RECKLESS PASSES AND DRIBBLES GAINED THEM NOTHING.
BA (LEAP)
WE'RE DONE FOR.
WHY ARE THEY PLAYING SO WEAK...?
HAA (SIGH)
CHIKUBUSHIMA HAD NO KIND OF RHYTHM WHATSOEVER.


THIS MONTH'S INFO BOX: ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN! THESE TWO ARE THE FIRST-YEAR FORWARD AND TEAM ACE OF KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH, THE BEST TEAM IN THE PREFECTURE.
IT'S THOSE KUSATSU HIDARI GUYS AGAIN!
HATASHOU (2)
IBUKI (1)
NOTHING ELSE TO DO?
STOP COMING TO WATCH US
THEY HURT?
I DON'T SEE THAT #16 GUY YOU ALWAYS TALK ABOUT, AND AZUCHI AND #11 AIN'T HERE EITHER...
WE'RE DOING 'EM THE HONOR OF COMING TO SCOUT, AND THEY'RE SUCKING IT UP.
HRMMMM...
IT'D BE SO EASY TO BLOCK THESE GUYS.
WAIT!
ASIDE FROM CHIKUBUSHIMA'S #4, THEY ALL SUCK.
MAN, NEITHER OF THESE TEAMS IS ANY GOOD.
HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO RAKUICHI, ANYWAY?
HE LEFT IN THE MORNING RIGHT ON TIME.*
I FORGOT ABOUT HIM! ★
KUH!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING, NAGAHAMA?*
WHICH MEANS ...
...WE'LL PROBABLY BE RUNNING INTO MORIYAMASHITA HIGH IN THE FINAL...
プロポラム

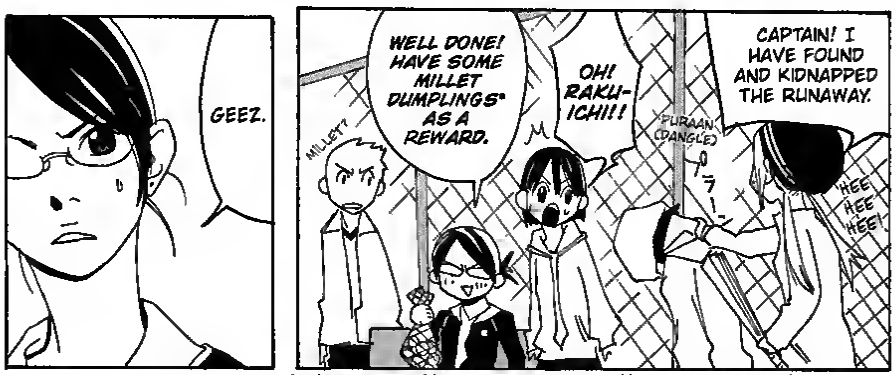
*2: BACKGROUND DETAIL THAT EVEN THE AUTHOR FORGOT. RAKUICHI IS STAYING AT BIMAKO'S PLACE.

*1: POINTY-HAIRED IBUKI-KUN HAS HAD A ONE-SIDED RIVALRY WITH RAKUICHI SINCE THEY WERE KIDS.


HEH-HEH! I BET THEY'RE ALL WISHING THEY HAD MY GLORIOUS TALENT ON THE FIELD RIGHT ABOUT NOW!
HEH HEH HEH
...WAS HERE.
I LOVE THAT #4 GUY!
DAMMIT! IF ONLY NAGAHAMA WERE HERE...
MEAN-WHILE RAKU-ICHI...
7
10

SHIRT, ZONE, BANNER: NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER TOURNAMENT

AHA! FOUND ME A FOOL! ☆
BINAKO'S FAN
SU (SHK)
THEN THEY'LL ALL WORSHIP THE GROUND I WALK ON. WHERE'S THE RED CARPET? BWEH-HEH-HEH ...
WAKU
WAKU (GIDDY)
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
NU HE HE! KU HE HE HE!
AND FOR SOME REASON, MATSURI ISN'T HERE EITHER... SO, WHEN DO I MAKE MY GRAND ENTRANCE?



*MILLET DUMPLINGS: ALSO KNOWN BY THE JAPANESE NAME, KIBI DANGO, THESE OLD-FASHIONED TREATS ARE BEST KNOWN FOR THEIR APPEARANCE IN THE FOLKTALE "MOMOTARO." THE HERO MOMOTARO RECRUITS A DOG, A MONKEY, AND A PHEASANT TO JOIN HIS QUEST BY OFFERING THEM MILLET DUMPLINGS.

WAAAH!
AHH!
YOU'D BETTER APOLOGIZE TO THE TEAM!
RAKU-ICHI!
BAD BOY!
SUPER SORRY.
PLU (SPIN)
WHAT AM I GONNA DO WITH YOU, KID!!?
SUCH A HASSLE...
HMPH!
YIPPEE!
UGH...
WE JUST GOT SCORED ON!!
KORO (ROLL)
KORO
HELL, YEAH!!!
WHOO-HOO!
NICE SHOT, MAN!
TA (DASH)

LET'S KEEP IT UP, TEAM!!
YEAH!
HIP-HIP-HOORAY!
YOU GOT IT, CAP-TAIN!
GAHH!
AWN
OH, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!
HMPH.
もふもふ
OM NOM NOM
SFX: MOFU (MUNCH) MOFU
H-HEY, GUYS, IT'S ONLY ONE GOAL! CHILL OUT!
HE'S ANGRY BECAUSE HE KEEPS CUTTING OFF PASSES AND MAKING HIS OWN, AND NOTHING'S COMING OUT OF IT!
あた
ふた
ATAFUTA (ALLUSTER)
AAGH!
CHIKAGUSHIMA
TAKE IT EASY, SETA...
WE ARE DRIVE FOR...
CHIKA
UH-OH! MAIBARA'S STRESS IS REACHING ITS PEAK.
.....
ムッスー
MUSSHH (HMPH)
イライラ
IRA CIRKO
IRA
OUR ONLY HOPE IN THIS GAME!
TCH!
CHIKAGUSHIMA
GA
GA (SHOVE)

WHAT!? MAI-BARA, NO!
CHINGSHAN
4
BI (CHING)
PITA (STOP)
.....
.....
.....
GA
GA
GA
BA (ZIP)
HE'S GONE INTO DON'T-GIVE-A-SHIT MODE!!!
CHINGSHAN
DO (WHOMP)
CHINGSHAN
4
CHINGSHAN
12

PIPIIII (WHEEE!)
WE'RE DONE FOR...
CHIKUSHIMA
6
4
(END OF FIRST HALF.)
THAT'S THE WAY, TEAM! LET'S TAKE THIS MOMENTUM INTO THE SECOND HALF!
THAT'S OUR SECOND GOAL!!!
YAY!
YIPPEE!
HIROO!
HELL YEAH!!
KIRA (SPARKLE)
PAAA / (SHINE)
KIRA
DOYOON (GLOOM)
AH HA HA
(ALL TOGETHER.)
STAY STRONG!
HEE HEE
GREAT WORK! LEMON SLICES, ANYONE?
WE'LL USE ALL OF OUR STRENGTH AND PLAY A GOOD, HARD GAME! NO REGRETS!
YEAH!!
IT'S OVER..
GAH! TOO BRIGHT! STAY AWAY!
IT BURNS!
SPECIAL EFFECTS OF SADNESS
KIRA
KIRA

...NAGA-HAMA!? WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
NAGAHAMA!
HEH!
HAH. KEEP IT DOWN, DORKS.
I GUESS THIS IS AS FAR AS WE GET...
HAA (SIGH)
YEAH, AND YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO HELP GET THERE.
CHIKUBUSHIMA
6
HEH HEH HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEH.
I'VE BEEN WATCHING FROM THE STANDS. WHAT A SHAMEFUL EXHIBITION THIS HAS BEEN.
HOW LAME IS THAT? (LAUGH.)
#4 WAS THE ONLY GOOD PLAYER ON THE FIELD...
THIS COMING FROM THE GUY WHO RAN AWAY FROM THE LAST GAME.
WHERE DOES THIS CONFIDENCE COME FROM?
WHAT?
15
NO.
WHATEVER. JUST START STRETCHING.

RAKUICHI WAS BEING A TWISTED LITTLE BASTARD!
SERI-OUSLY ...
HOW COME? SHOULDN'T YOU BE ABLE TO WIN THIS MATCH WITHOUT ME?
HE'S HOLDING SUCH A GRUDGE OVER BEING TAKEN OUT OF THAT GAME.
CHIKUBUSHIMA
8
6
HEH-HEH-HEH! MY EARS ARE CLOSED!
TAKE IT EASY, YOUKA-ICHI!
YOU STUPID TWERP!
SNARL!
RAKUICHI!
DOKI DOKI
DOKI DOKI
BUT, IF YOU REALLY WANT ME, I MIGHT CONSIDER JOINING IF THE ENTIRE TEAM APOLOGIZES AND TREATS ME LIKE A KING.
HEH HEH HEH
A DIRTY RAT INDEED.
I CAN'T HEEEAR YOU!
DAMMIT, RAKUICHI!
SLUG.
CONSIDERING THE MESS WE'RE IN NOW, WE'D BE BETTER OFF WITH THAT SLUG THAN WITH NOTHING!
OUR BACKS ARE AGAINST THE WALL.
GRR...
C'MON, SENPAI! DON'T HOLD ME BACK!

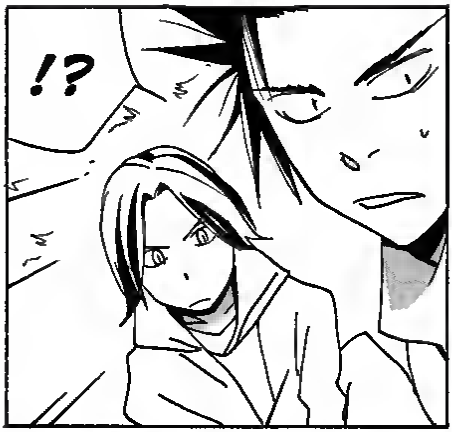
THAT WAS QUICK!
HMM.
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO PLAY.
WE'RE SORRY, YOUR MAJESTY! PLEASE PLAY WITH US!!
BA (FLIP)
SURE! (FLIP)
WOW! NO SPINE!
WORDS ARE FREE, TOO KNOW.
HE'S-A RIGHT. WE SHOULD PAY-A HEEM DE COMPLEEMENTS!
WE PLAY DIRTY, SIR!
WHAT AN ACCENT
ANTONIO-SENPAI SPEAKS!? IN A FULL BUBBLE, NO LESS!
THE CHIKUBUSHIMA ELEVEN IN A NUTSHELL.
PLAY DIRTY, PLAY DIRTY
WE'LL MAKE THIS WORK.
HEH-HEH-HEH-HEH-HEH
HMPH.
TWO CAN PLAY THE MENTAL GAME.
HEH-HEH. ALL PART OF THE PLAN.
HAI
NOT TO WORRY
DON'T YOU FEEL PATHETIC?
AND YOU GUYS ARE FINE WITH DOING THIS?
RAKUICHI.

SH-SHUT UP.
YOU'RE INCORRIGIBLE
AFTER PUTTING ON THAT ENTIRE SHOW, IT TURNS OUT YOU WERE WEARING YOUR UNIFORM UNDERNEATH YOUR CLOTHES THE WHOLE TIME...
I'M ASSUMING YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE UP FOR YOUR WILLFUL ABSENCE IN THE SECOND HALF!
SERIOUSLY
GASU (THWOK)
GUJI (NOOG)
GUJI
SHUT UP!
KID.
HEY!
ズカーン (ZOOM)
(CLIP)
WHAT!?
CHIKUSHIMA
16
9
WE'VE GOT AN EMER-GENCY!!
AHHHHH!
YOU BET I—
SENSEI!
DOSHIIIIII (TWEET)
HMPH.
CHIKUSHIMA
7

JUST WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF! MAIBARA'S FRUSTRATION SPECIALTY: THE "MATCH FORFEIT"!!
DEAR GOD!
OH!
DAAAH!
HE'S WORSE THAN RAKUICHI-
ARE YOU KIDDING ME!?
GUHAAA (URGH)
CHUGUGUSHUHH
MAIBARA-SENPAI GOT ANGRY AND LEFT THE PARK!!
WAY TO STEAL MY SPOT-LIGHT.
UGH!
HUH?
THIS WAS MY SCENE!!
WHAT!?
DAMN. WITHOUT #4, EVEN I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO WIN THIS ONE...
HO (PHEW)
YIPEEE!
WELL DONE! HAVE SOME MILLET DUMP-LINGS
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
WH-WHATEVER. I'LL JUST BUST OUT SOME GENIUS MOVES TO WIN IT...
MATSURI-SENPAI!?
BUT I FOUND FOUND THIS AT THE STORE NEARBY!!
DOON (BOOM)
HOKU
MOSSA (SMUSH)
LOOK, LOOK! A NICE OLD MAN BOUGHT ME ALL THESE TOYS!
PORO
PORO (PLOP)

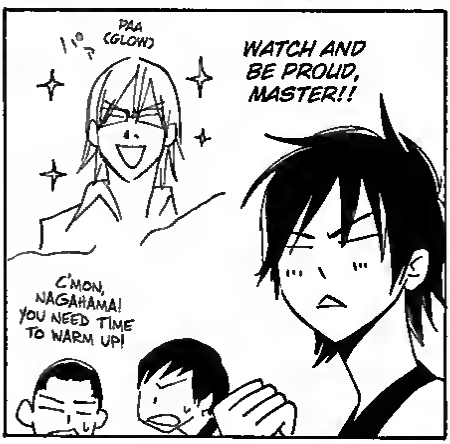
AS LONG AS WE WIN, IT'S ALL GOOD IN THE HOOD!! THE END!
JAPAN HAS A FAMOUS SAYING THAT DATES BACK TO CENTURIES AGO.
THOSE ARE THE WORDS OF A TEACHER?
"THE ENDS JUSTIFY THE MEANS."
BUN (WHOOSH)
ANY-WAY!
FAN.
PASHI (WHACK)
NOW THAT WE HAVE RAKUICHI AND MATSURI HERE...
RAKU-ICHI!
MAKE SURE WE WIN!
FOR AZUCHI-SENPAI'S SAKE MOST OF ALL!
THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT PART.
.....
...YOU GOT IT!

GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
DON'T YOU DARE LOSE THIS GAME— YOU'VE STILL GOT TO SETTLE YOUR SCORE WITH ME!
FU (SNORT)
NAGA-HAMA!
ZAN (SLICE)
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
GAN (SHOCK)
DON'T TALK TO A GUY IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS GAME.
IBUKI-KUN...
NOT AGAIN!
-THIS IS EMBAR-RASSING.
FUU (SPIN)
OH, IT'S THE SPIKY-HAIRED GUY FROM KUSATSU HIDARI!
CHIKUSHOU
15
WELL, WHOEVER YOU ARE...
GUSU (SNIFF)


!?

RAKU-ICHI?
...
REBORN?

MOOHEE!
SENPAI, THE GAME'S ABOUT TO START.


PAA (GLOW)
WATCH AND BE PROUD, MASTER!!
C'MON, NAGAHAMA! YOU NEED TIME TO WARM UP!

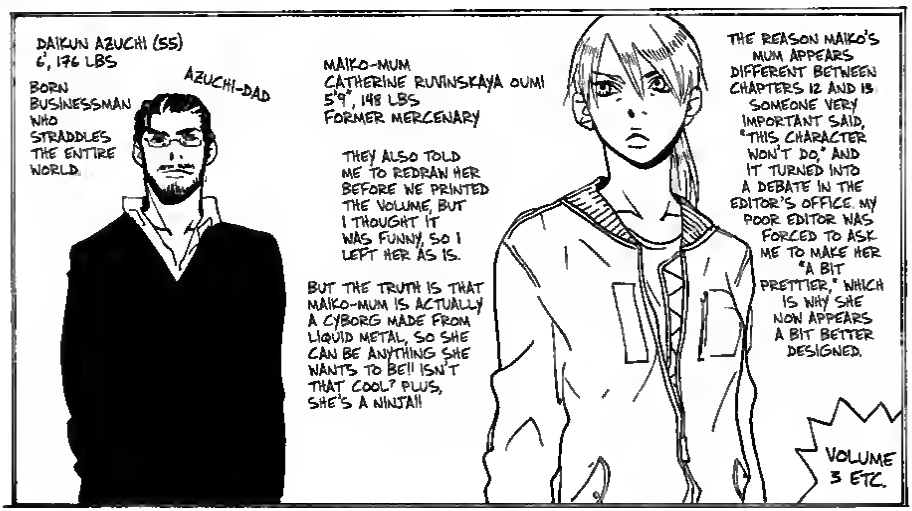
TAKE A GOOD LOOK...
...AT THE REBORN ME!

...EVEN IF THEY WIN, CHIKUBUSHIMA DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE.
HUH?
SHUDDUP
LET'S GO, LOSERS!
BUT...
WELL, THE GUY'S GOT CONFIDENCE.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU
AWW! #4 IS GONE!
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT... THE RAT!
ZA
ZA
ZA
ZA (ZSH)
THEIR NEXT OPPONENT IS BOUND TO BE MORIYAMASHITA HIGH!
--IS TO WATCH MORI-YAMASHITA.
I MEAN THE ONLY REASON WE'RE HERE.
AH!
NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, KIBUKAWA-SAN.
HEYA.
!

THAT'S KIBUKAWA, MORIYAMASHITA'S DEFENDER AND CONTENDER FOR THE YOUTH REGIONAL TEAM.
AND WHILE THIS MOMENTOUS (?) MEETING PLAYED OUT IN THE BACKGROUND ...
HATA-SHOU.
UH, THE GAME'S ALREADY GETTING UNDER WAY
...THE REBORN (?) RAKUICHI PREPARED ...
GUESS I'LL GET MYSELF WARMED UP!
...FOR THE SECOND HALF!!
...TO DISCOVER HIS TRUE SELF. ☆
MEANWHILE, GUSUKU WAS ON A JOURNEY..
TO (TMP)

#15
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT

ZA (ZSHW)
SPOILED BRAT RAKUICHI SHOWS UP FOR THE SECOND HALF!!
THIS HAPPENS EVERY TIME...
WATCH THIS, FOOLS.
...TIME TO PLAY!
HERE WE GO...


DAIKUN AZUCHI (SS)
6', 176 LBS
BORN BUSINESSMAN WHO STRADDLES THE ENTIRE WORLD.
AZUCHI-DAD
MAIKO-MUM
CATHERINE RUVINSKAYA OUMI
5'9", 148 LBS
FORMER MERCENARY
THEY ALSO TOLD ME TO REDRAW HER BEFORE WE PRINTED THE VOLUME, BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS FUNNY, SO I LEFT HER AS IS.
BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT MAIKO-MUM IS ACTUALLY A CYBORG MADE FROM LIQUID METAL, SO SHE CAN BE ANYTHING SHE WANTS TO BE!! ISN'T THAT COOL? PLUS, SHE'S A NINJA!!
THE REASON MAIKO'S MUM APPEARS DIFFERENT BETWEEN CHAPTERS 12 AND 13 SOMEONE VERY IMPORTANT SAID, "THIS CHARACTER WON'T DO," AND IT TURNED INTO A DEBATE IN THE EDITOR'S OFFICE. MY POOR EDITOR WAS FORCED TO ASK ME TO MAKE HER "A BIT PRETTIER," WHICH IS WHY SHE NOW APPEARS A BIT BETTER DESIGNED.
VOLUME 3 ETC.

CHECK OUT THE BRAND-NEW ME!
AZUCHI, THE TEAM ACE, IS OUT WITH AN INJURY!
RAKUICHI AND MATSURI-SENPAI WERE WAY LATE!!
MMM...
#4'S GONE. WANNA LEAVE?
YEAH.
BAND-WAGON FANS
AND NOW WE'RE DOWN BY TWO GOALS! ON TOP OF THAT, OUR ONLY HOPE, MAIBARA-SENPAI, GOT FED UP AND LEFT!!
BA (ZIP)
HOW ARE WE GOING TO WIN THIS ONE?

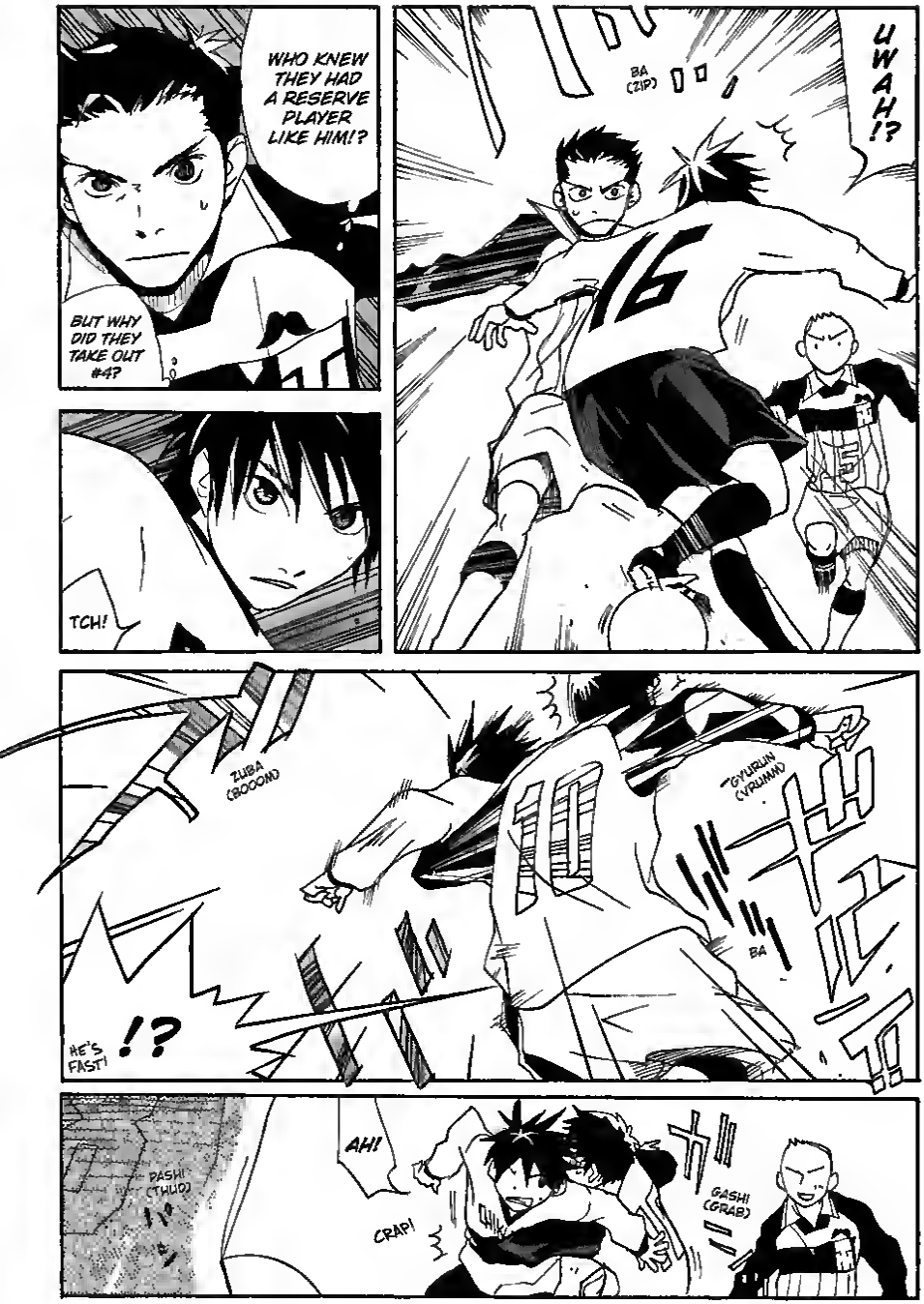
RAKU-
ICHI.
☆
BA
(ZIP)
WHA
...!?
PASHI
(PASS)
UGHI
BA
(ZING)
!
NAGA-
HAMA...
PASSED!?

GOT IT!
PASHI (THAP)
CHIMOO
16
PYUUU (ZOOM)
DA (OSH)
DA
BI (BING)
BI
KICK-AND-GO!
...PASSED THE BALL!
A ONE-TWO MANEUVER!
RAKU-ICHI...
GEH!!?
...THEN HE STARTS MAKING PASSES... WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO RAKUICHI!?
HRMMM...
FIRST HE SAYS HE'S TAKING THE LEFT WING...

NAGA-HAMA'S ...
BI (DING)
YOU SEEM CONFIDENT, HATASHOU.
GABINCHO (GABOING)
... PASSING THE BALL!?
HAH.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, KIBUKAWA-SAN? THESE GUYS COULD BE YOUR NEXT OPPONENT.
THEY'RE A JOKE.
HERE TO SCOUT OUT THE ENEMY, THE ACE OF THE SQUAD HIMSELF!
HA HA.

AND WE HAVE A SCORE TO SETTLE FROM THE SUMMER.
THIS TIME ...
(FIO) (GUARE)
YOU'RE THE ONLY TEAM FIT TO PLAY US!
WOW, THIS GUY'S MENACING
...WE'LL BE THE ONES PLAYING FOR THE NATIONAL TITLE!!
WELL, HE WON'T BEAT ME!
HOW DOES HE SAY THAT STUFF WITH A STRAIGHT FACE?
DUDE'S SO EMBARRASSING.
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
BA! (SWOOSH)
しゅっ

BA (BOOM)
BI (BSHH)
CHIRA (PEEK)
TRUE, IT'S A LOT EASIER WHEN YOU PASS...
BETTER TAKE IT MYSELF.
HEH HEH
ZU (ZHM)
...BUT OUR FORWARDS KINDA REALLY SUCK.
OVER HERE!
YOO-HOO!

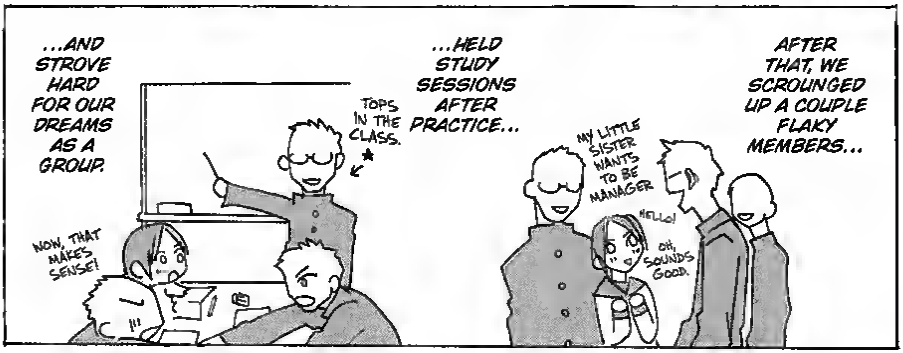

WHO KNEW THEY HAD A RESERVE PLAYER LIKE HIM!?
BUT WHY DID THEY TAKE OUT #4?
BA (ZIP)
UWAH!?
16
TCH!
ZUBA (BOOOM)
GYURUN (VRUMM)
BA
HE'S FAST!
!?
PASH! (TWIG)
AH!
CRAP!
GASHI (GRAB)

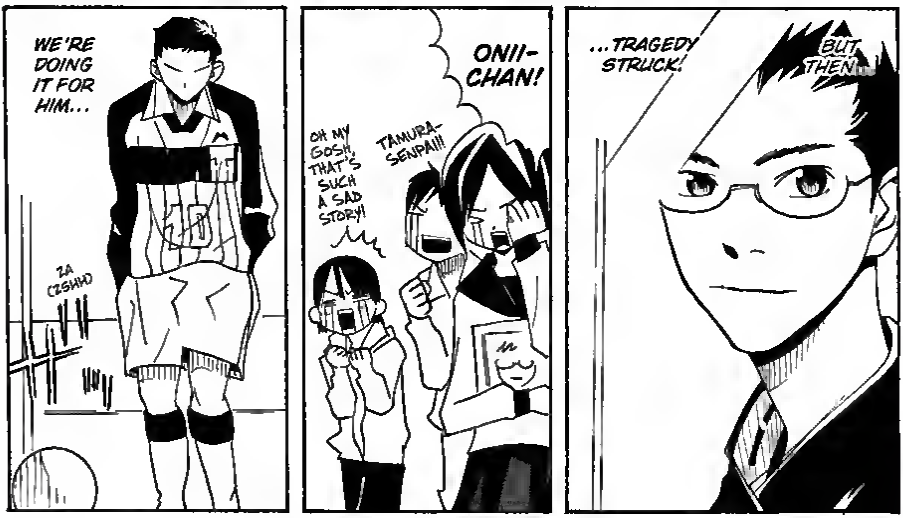
BASU (BOINK)
GACK!
NICE PASS!
STUPID REF!
AND I CAN'T PROTEST BECAUSE I ALREADY HAVE A YELLOW FROM THE LAST MATCH.
YEAH!
SHIT!
DAMN, THIS GUY'S FOULING THE HELL OUTTA ME!
MATSURI-SENPAI!!
WE'RE SAVED!
YURARA (SWISH)
WAIT UP!
EH!?
SUKA (SWISH)
WAAAAAH!?
HUH?
FURA
FURA (WOBBLE)
HOKU (PUFF)
I CAN'T EAT ANYMORE!
YAY!
HOKU
HOKU
CHIKUBUSHIMA

SFX: BACHIN (BING)
MAN, THAT WAS CLOSE!
SO CLOSE!
WHOO-HOO! CORNER KICK! ☆
HEY!! WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT ABOUT!!?
S-S-S-S-SENPAAAI! (PISSED)
OH, SORRY, SORRY.
HEE HEE
DAMMIT!
THAT WAS AWFUL!
WE'RE DONE FOR. IT'S TRUE
HUH!? WAIT, WHAT JUST HAPPENED!?
MATSURI?
HMM? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SU (ZIP)
MR. PRINCIPAL?
TAKE IT SERIOUSLY, MATSURI-SENPAI!
HA-HA-HA BE AT EASE, MEN. I'VE GOT IT TRAPPED IN THE BAG...
THIS IS OUR CHANCE, GUYS! PUSH IT IN AND PUT THIS GAME AWAY!
THAT MAKES NO SENSE
YEAH!

IF ONLY YOU COULD SEE THE WAY THEY'RE PLAYING, ONII-CHAN...
RAAAAH!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO LET THIS RIDE END NOW.
WE HAVE TO DO IT... FOR HIM.
OUR LITTLE SCHOOL HAS MADE IT ALL THE WAY TO THE QUARTER-FINALS...
OURS IS A FEEDER SCHOOL, SO THE OFFICE FROWNS ON CLUB ACTIVITY, PREFERRING THAT WE CONCENTRATE ON STUDYING...
YOU'RE FREE TO WASTE YOUR OWN TIME..
...BUT DON'T WASTE OTHERS'.
SOCCER IS A TEAM SPORT, SIR!
HATRED LEADS TO NOTHING. DON'T LET THE IDIOTS PROVOKE YOU.
THE WORLD DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING BUT RESULTS. SO IF THEY WANT RESULTS, WE'LL SHOW THEM. WE'LL SHUT THEM UP.
SAKATA!
I TAKE FULL RESPON-SIBILITY.
WHAT? ARE YOU TALKING BACK TO ME?
THIS IS GOING DOWN ON YOUR RECORD!

MAYBE YOU WERE THE BETTER CHOICE TO BE CAPTAIN.
HA-HA! WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU'RE THE CAPTAIN, NOT ME!
OUR SCHOOL'S NOT GOING TO CHANGE UNLESS YOU FORCE THEM TO RETHINK THEIR POLICIES.
TAMURA ...
I JUST WANT TO PLAY SOCCER.
BE THE EXCEP-TION.


...AND STROVE HARD FOR OUR DREAMS AS A GROUP.
NOW, THAT MAKES SENSE!
TOPS IN THE CLASS.
...HELD STUDY SESSIONS AFTER PRACTICE...
MY LITTLE SISTER WANTS TO BE MANAGER
"ELLO!
OH, SOUNDS GOOD.
AFTER THAT, WE SCROUNGED UP A COUPLE FLAKY MEMBERS...


WE'RE DOING IT FOR HIM...
ZA CSHHD
ONII-CHAN!
OH MY GOSH, THAT'S SUCH A SAD STORY!
TAMURA-SENPAI!!!
...TRAGEDY STRUCK!
BUT, THEN

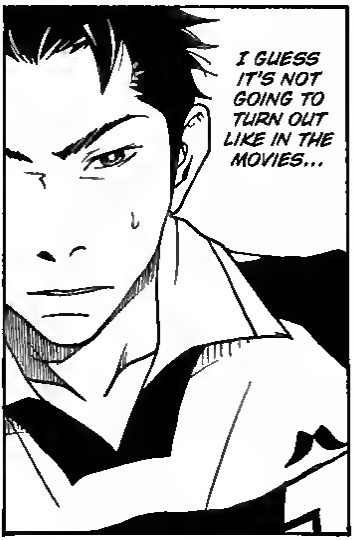
DO (BOOM)

DOGA (WHAM)
GASHI
UWAH!
NICE ONE, ANTONIO!

GOT IT...
BA (ZOOM)

WE'RE STILL CLINGING TO OUR DREAM...
CAPTAIN... TEAM...
BOOKOOO

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE SHOULD JUST GIVE UP!


I GUESS IT'S NOT GOING TO TURN OUT LIKE IN THE MOVIES...

HELL, YEAH! HERE'S OUR CHANCE!!
PLEASE, LOSE FOR THEM!
OVER HERE!
GYUN (ZWOOM)
...IN OUR FOR-WARDS!
I CAN'T PUT ANY TRUST...
HE'S FAST!
...I NEED ...
THERE-FORE
WHOA!
ZUBA (ZWIP)
...TO BE ...
TCH!
GOOOOOO!!
...THE HERO!!
BO (BOOM)

!!
WHAT!?
CHIKUSHIMA
B4 (LEAP)
AWW, CRAP! I FLOATED IT!!
BAIN (BWONG)
GAGA (SWISH)
POGO (MWOMP)
WHA!?
YEAAAH! GOOOAL!!
NIPAAA (BEAM)
GET OFF, FATTY

WE'RE GOOD! TAKE IT EASY!!
IT'S JUST ONE GOAL, TEAM! WE STILL HAVE THE LEAD!!
YEAH!
THAT #16...
DON'T STEAL MY GLORY, MAN.
HAAA
...HE'S ONE TO WATCH OUT FOR.
#5 HAS A PHYSIQUE TO WATCH OUT FOR TOO
.....
CAPTAIN!
HEH! GONNA TRY TO TAKE ME OUTTA THE GAME LIKE MAIBARA?
SO...
!
BA (ZIP)
HMPH
BA
GA (WHAK)
GA

ZUBA (TWOOSH)
NICE TRY!
...YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP ME WITH TWO MEASLY DEFENDERS? FAT CHANCE!!
BACK DOWN, NAGA-HAMA!!
!?
TWO MOVE!?
(STOP)
HOW ABOUT THIS!?
(ZIP)
OOPS.
!?
COME ON!
PORORI (BLONK)
TCH! I GUESS THESE GUYS HAVE SOME GAS LEFT IN THEIR TANKS!
STILL RUNNING HARD, THE DORKS
PI (PING)

HIKI-YAMA-KUN?
YAMA!
GACHAN (CLINK)
SERIOUSLY, WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH HIM TODAY?
AND IGNORE HIM!
SAVE YOURSELF THE TROUBLE
OKAY, GUYS!! MATSURI-SENPAI IS WORTHLESS TODAY! STOP COUNTING ON HIM FOR HELP!!
BOO! YOU'RE KINDA CHEEKY, SETA.
HUH!?
WAAAH!
WAAH!
BOOORING. GONNA GO HOME
SIGN. YOU TOUCH, I KILL. —MATSURI
!?
BA
ACK!

THESE ARE SOME TOUGH GUYS HERE...
JUST NOT TOO EFFICIENT.
FUUU (WHEW)
NO STAMINA
AND MOST IMPORTANT, YOU CAN'T OVERLOOK OUR TEAMWORK!
TA
TA (TEK)
WE MAY NOT HAVE THE BEST TECHNIQUE, BUT WE RUN A LOT TO MAKE UP FOR IT!!
JUST WATCH...
GYU (SQUEEZE)
WE PLAY THE TYPE OF SOCCER THAT IS BEST SUITED FOR OUR TEAM, ACCORDING TO HIS PLANS...
10
...TA-MURA...

SETA-SENPAI!
GA (WHAM)
HARD WORK IS ALWAYS REWARDED!
DO YOUR BEST, AND THINGS WILL WORK OUT!
OKAY!
VISUALIZE YOUR DREAMS...
CAPTAIN!
WE'RE STILL GOOD!
HA HA!
DA (DASH)
...AND THEY WILL COME TRUE!!

SHUT UP!
HMPH!
DON'T MAKE FUN OF US!
TALK ABOUT EMBARRASSING!!
TON (TAP)
MAN!
BA (WHOOSH)
MUKA (GRRR)
YOU SHOULDN'T BE SAYING THAT IN FRONT OF PEOPLE!
AND I'M NOT MAKING FUN OF YOU
SORRY FOR YOU
DA (DASH)
...ALL OF THAT GARBAGE ...
...MEANS NOTHING IN THE FACE OF MY INCREDIBLE TALENT!
GOU (ZOOM)
!?

MUST REACH...
DAMN ...
GUN CLOOOMD
!?
THAT'S ...
...WHAT HAPPENS WHEN RAKU-ICHI...
...REACHES TOP SPEED...
PLEASE! LOSE TO THEM!!
HOW CAN ANYONE REACH THAT SPEED!?
HE'S SO FAST!

DON (BOOM)
DAMMIT!
SO THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS ...
... WHEN YOU RUN INTO SHEER "TALENT" THAT NO AMOUNT OF HARD WORK CAN OVERCOME ...
16
HAA
HAA (HUFF)
WELL, CRAP...
GA (KICK)
GUNI (GYERK)
!!
AGH!
16
GOOOOO!!!
YESSS!

AAAHH! HE SLIPPED AND FELL!
SUTEN (FLOMP)
POOON (BOING)
BA (DASH)
!?
GA CHYAN!
GOT EET!
CHIKUSHIKYA
GACK!
NOT AGAIN!
AH!
EH?
PASA (SWISH)
GOOOOOAL!
DAMMIT!
YAY!
KORO (ROLL)
KORO
YES! WE TIED!!
YEAH! ANTONIO-SENPAI WITH HIS SECOND GOAL!!
YAMOLA!
YOU'RE THE BEST
ZURURI (GLOOP)
CHIKUSHOH
SFX: GAKUN (SLUMP)

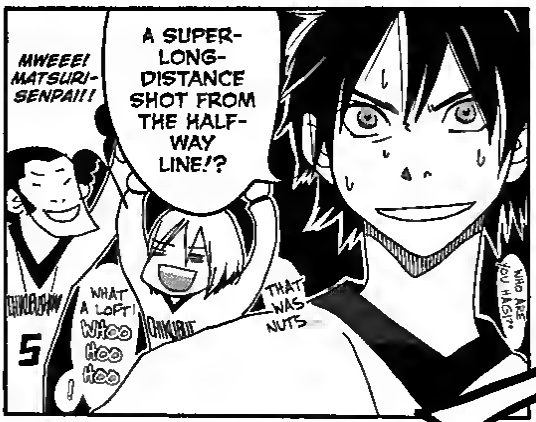
C-CAP-TAIN...
PASHI (PAT)
WE'RE OKAY! IT'S STILL TIED!
THIS DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE GOING TO LOSE!!
DON'T SLACK OFF NOW!
.....
ARRRGH! DAMN IT ALL...
STUPID AFRO!
NOT ONCE, BUT TWICE!
AGAINST THESE CHUMPS, THOUGH, I COULD MANAGE ON THE LEFT SIDE JUST ON MY DRIBBLE ALONE! NO PASSING REQUIRED...☆
HEE HEE HEE.
NIYARI (SMIRK)
THE REBORN RAKUICHI WAS ALREADY SLIPPING BACK INTO HIS OLD BAD HABITS...
THAT WAS SOME POSITION-ING, ANTONIO!
HA-HA! HE ALWAYS FINE A WAY TO SCROO UP, SO I MAKE DE GUESS AND SCORE. ☆
HE NOT GOOD FINISHER.
I CAN HEAR YOU!

WHAT'S THIS? I THOUGHT HE WAS GIVEN THEM BY A NICE OLD MAN...
OLD MAN!?
ANY-WAY...
THE SUPER-DUPER RARE KIND! IT ONLY APPEARS 0.14% OF THE TIME!
AND THIS! AND THIS!
HOW DOES HE KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT THEM?
AND IT JUST SO HAPPENS TO BE THE ONE HIKIYAMA-KUN DESIRES MOST!
WH-WHAT'S THIS!?
HMM!?
WAS IT HIM!?
IT COULDN'T BE.
BE NICE, JERK!
YOU HAVE TO LOVE!
WHAT SUCKS EVEN MORE IS THAT NO ONE LISTENS TO ME NOW!
...THE GAME'S VERY NEARLY OVER. WE DON'T WANT THIS TO GO INTO A SHOOT-OUT...
OUR GOALIE SUCKS, THAT'S WHY!!
HIKI-YAMA-KUN!
IT IS DANGEROUS, BUT IT MUST BE DONE!!
IN WHICH CASE, I HAVE NO CHOICE!
BA (WHOOSH)
I'M AN AIRPLANE! I'M NOT LISTENING!
A WILY SCHEMER WHO WOULD SEEK TO MAKE HIKIYAMA-KUN USELESS...
SENPAI.
YES, ONLY HE COULD BE SO WICKED!

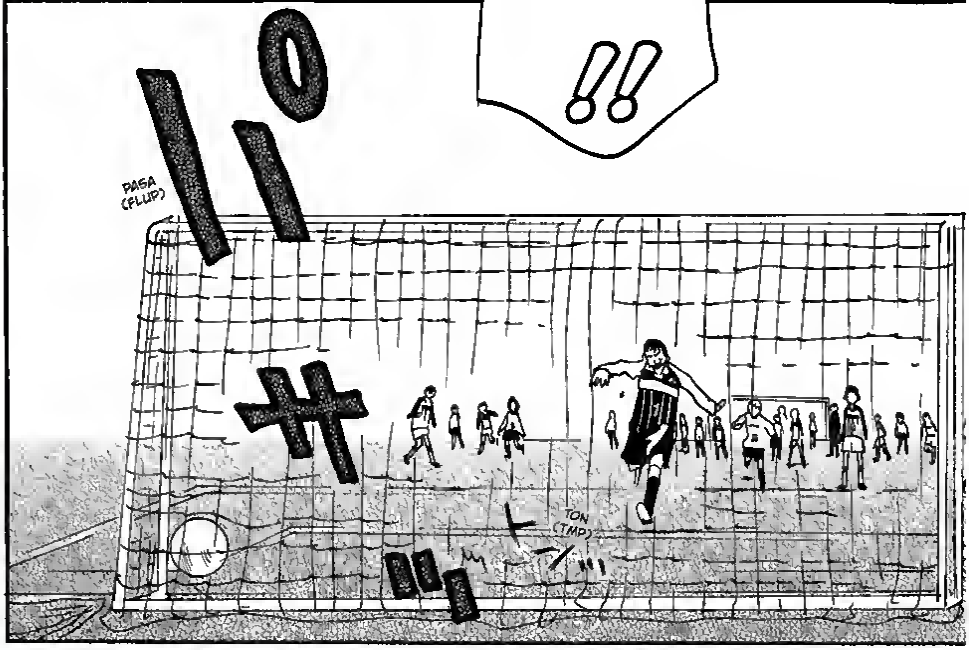
!
!!
...THIS IS GOING TO HAPPEN!!
YOUNG MAN, IF YOU DON'T SHAPE UP RIGHT NOW...
GYU (SQUEEZE)
KACHI (CLICK)
SHUBO (WHOOSH)
MESHI (SQUISH)
BAAAAN (BOOM)
AH!
BA (ZIP)
YOU'RE HOLDING IT TOO LONG, NAGA-HAMA!
BA
WE HAVE FRIENDSHIP AND EFFORT ON OUR SIDE...
THIS IS OUR LAST CHANCE!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME! EVERYONE UP TO THE TOP!!

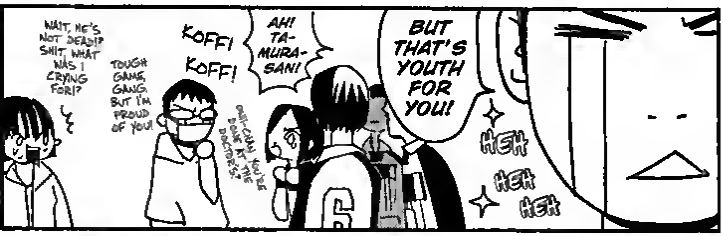
WHA...?
!!?
...AND WE DESERVE TO BE REWARDED FOR THAT...
WHEN DID HE...?
BA-OWHOOSH
AND YET, SOME-TIMES...
...CRUELTY MAKES ITS SUDDEN APPEAR-ANCE...
OH CRAP! KEEPER, GET BACK!!
SFX: HYOITTO (BOING)
ZAZA (SLIDE)

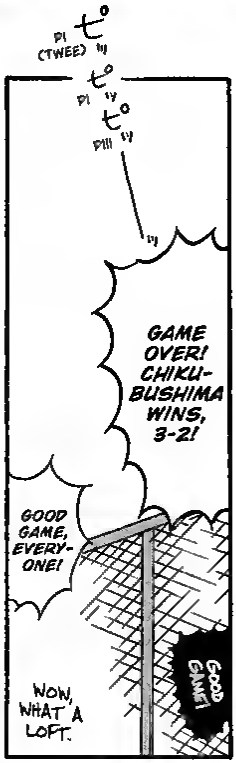
*GHEORGHE HAGI: A ROMANIAN SOCCER PLAYER RENOWNED FOR HIS INCREDIBLE BALL CONTROL AND ABILITY TO LOB LONG SHOTS OVER THE DRAWN-IN GOALIE'S HEAD



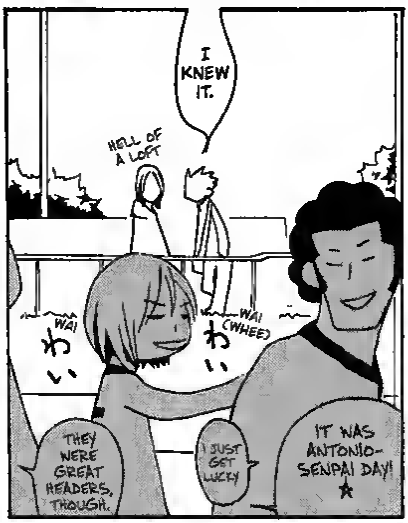
*GHEORGHE HAGI A ROMANIAN SOCCER PLAYER RENOWNED FOR HIS INCREDIBLE BALL CONTROL AND ABILITY TO LOB LONG SHOTS OVER THE DRAWN-IN GOALIE'S HEAD

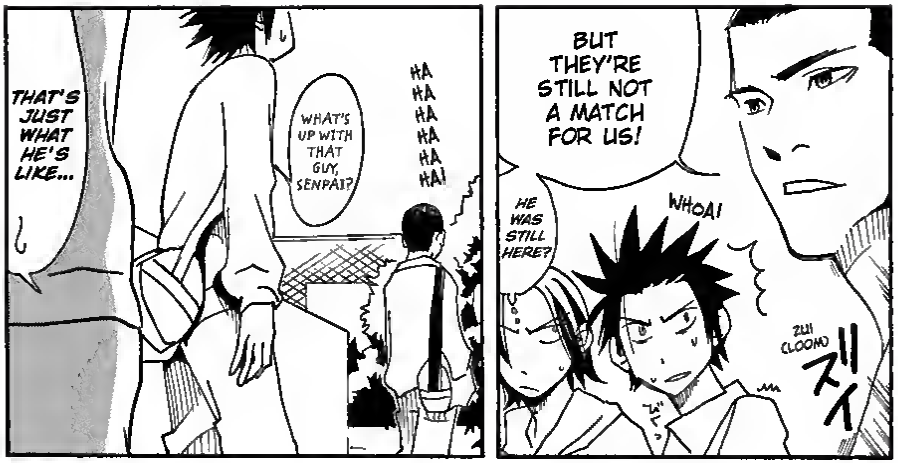

!!
PAISA (FLUP)
TON (TMP)


WAIT, HE'S NOT DEAD!? SHIT, WHAT WAS I CRYING FOR!?
KOFF! KOFF!
TOUGH GAME, GANG. BUT I'M PROUD OF YOU!
AH! TA-MURA-SAN!
BUT THAT'S YOUTH FOR YOU!
HEH HEH HEH


PI (TWEE)
PI
PIII
GAME OVER! CHIKU-BUSHIMA WINS, 3-2!
GOOD GAME, EVERY-ONE!
GOOD GAME!
WOW, WHAT A LOFT.

IS THAT SO?
YOU CAN'T COUNT CHI-KUBUSHIMA OUT!!
AND WHAT'S UP WITH THAT #1!?


I KNEW IT.
HELL OF A LOFT
WAI
WAI (WHEE)
THEY WERE GREAT HEADERS, THOUGH.
I JUST GET LUCKY
IT WAS ANTONIO-SENPAI DAY! ★


THAT'S JUST WHAT HE'S LIKE...
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT GUY, SENPAI?
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
BUT THEY'RE STILL NOT A MATCH FOR US!
HE WAS STILL HERE?
WHOA!
ZUI CLOOMD
ズ

SFX. BIKU (TWITCH)

AND SO... ☆

...CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH REACHES THE SEMI-FINALS.

SFX. PASHA (CLICK)

SASAMEKE # 03 **to be continued.**

THE AUTHOR SPEAKS (?)

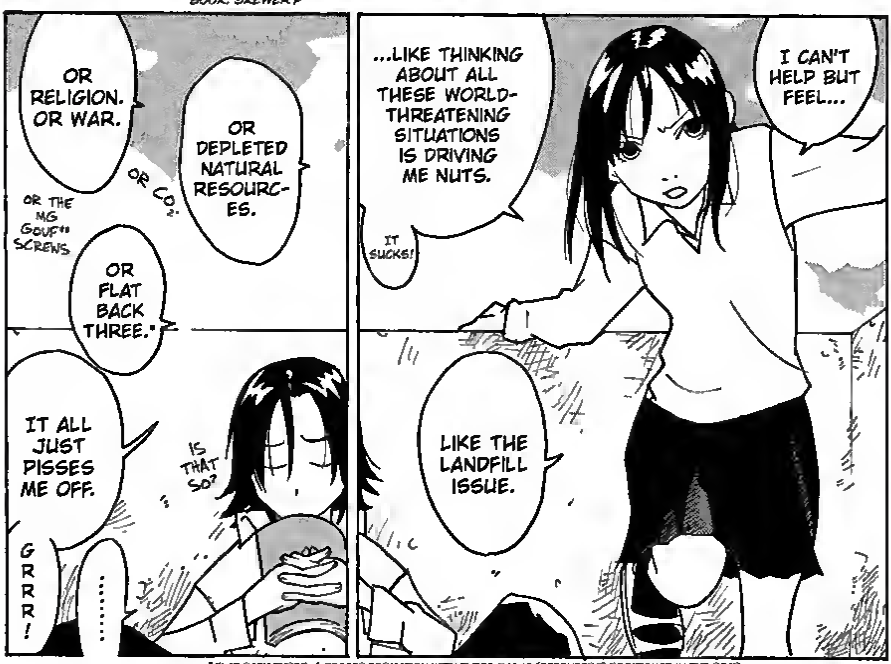
WHISPERS OF YOUTH ❸
"THE WHISPERING KICKER OF YOUTH"

Sacchi end Negehame-kun ere now high school etudents (without any explanation). That's why their hair is longer. And their uniforms are different. But I seem to recall that nobody had eny complaints about thasa things in particular! Vamola!!

THE WHISPERING KICKER OF YOUTH

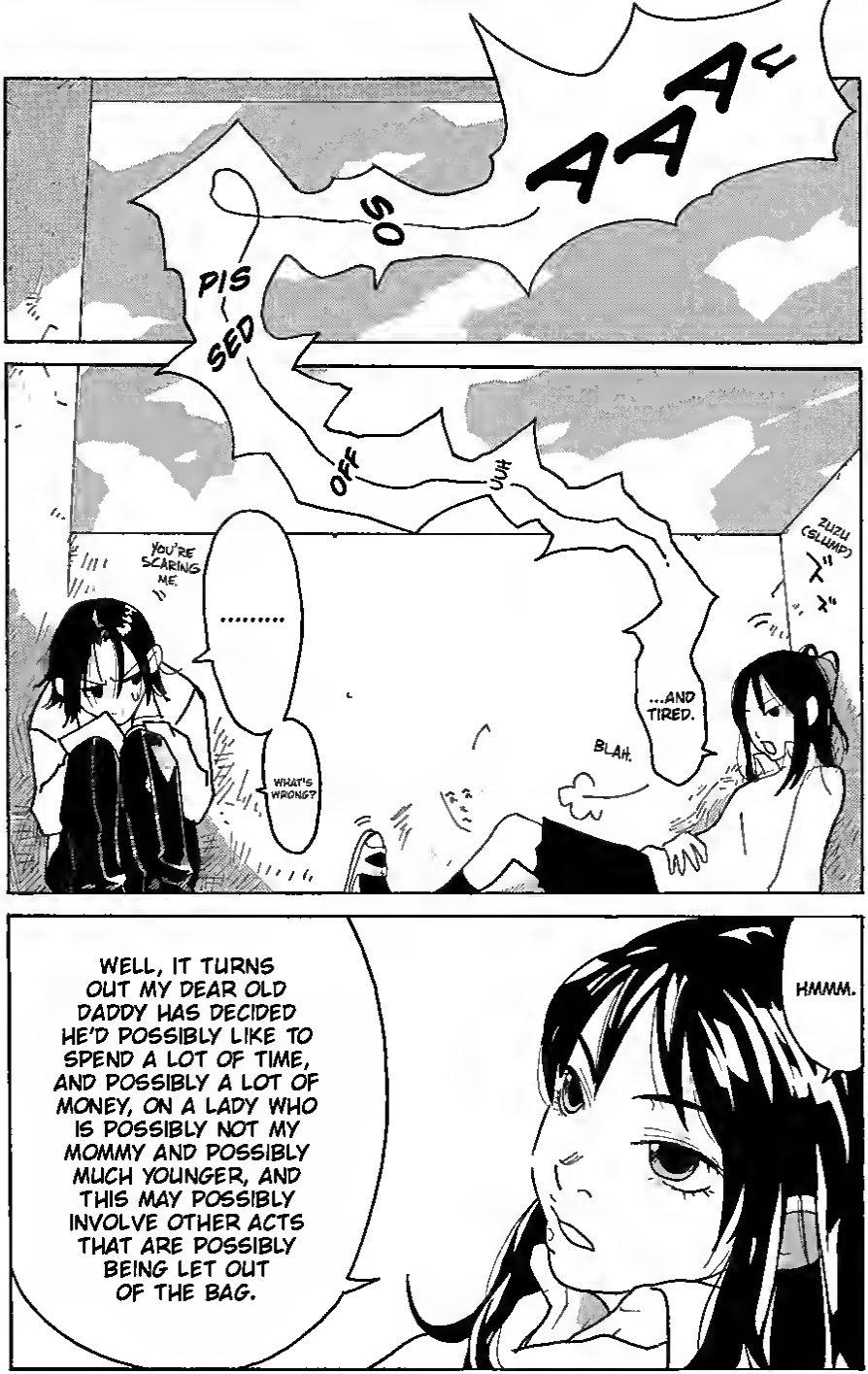
AHHHHI
WHANNA
ATUWARI
JEEYAGWAR..
TEYOOO!!
RAAAH!
ANDA TURRRBOW EXPRESSSS!!
I WANN-EMMM!!
SHUT UP.
ON THIS DAY, SACHIKO NOMURA HAS CRACKED.

BOOK: SKEWER P


OR RELIGION. OR WAR.
OR DEPLETED NATURAL RESOURCES.
OR CO_2.
OR THE MG GOUF** SCREWS
OR FLAT BACK THREE.*
IT ALL JUST PISSES ME OFF.
GRRR!
IS THAT SO?
...LIKE THINKING ABOUT ALL THESE WORLD-THREATENING SITUATIONS IS DRIVING ME NUTS.
IT SUCKS!
LIKE THE LANDFILL ISSUE.
I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL...

*FLAT BACK THREE: A SOCCER FORMATION WITH THREE BACKS (DEFENDERS) POSITIONED IN THE REAR.

**MG GOUF: A GUNDAM MOBILE SUIT MODEL. THE REFERENCE TO "SCREWS" IS PROBABLY REFERRING TO A PLASTIC MODEL OF THIS TYPE OF GUNDAM, AS AUTHOR RYUJINGOTSUBO IS AN AVOWED FAN OF FIGURINES. THE "MG" STANDS FOR "MASTER GRADE," WHICH IS A TYPE OF PLASTIC GUNDAM MODEL.


AAAA
SO
PIS
SED
OFF
UH
ZUZU (SLUMP)
YOU'RE SCARING ME
.....
WHAT'S WRONG?
...AND TIRED.
BLAH.
HMMM.
WELL, IT TURNS OUT MY DEAR OLD DADDY HAS DECIDED HE'D POSSIBLY LIKE TO SPEND A LOT OF TIME, AND POSSIBLY A LOT OF MONEY, ON A LADY WHO IS POSSIBLY NOT MY MOMMY AND POSSIBLY MUCH YOUNGER, AND THIS MAY POSSIBLY INVOLVE OTHER ACTS THAT ARE POSSIBLY BEING LET OUT OF THE BAG.

TO MAKE THINGS EVEN BETTER, DEAR OLD MOMMY IS REGULARLY RAIDING THE LIQUOR CABINET AND TURNING INTO A STONE-COLD LUSH.
OR MAYBE JUST PROSTI-TUTION. (LOL)
ADULTERY, HUH?
YUP.
HMMM.
WE'RE LIKE ONE OF THOSE DYSFUNCTIONAL '80s B-MOVIE FAMILIES RIGHT NOW.
BIG SIS LEFT WITH HER BOYFRIEND, AND BIG BRO IS ON A JOURNEY WITHOUT A DESTINATION.
...SO WE'RE HEADED FOR AN UNAVOIDABLE DIVORCE.
ON TOP OF ALL THAT, DADDY'S LOVER GIRL IS PREGNANT...

AND THAT MEANS I GET THE ULTIMATE MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTION.
SIGH... THIS SUCKS.

I'M LEAVING. BYE.
H-HANG ON!
...MAYBE I SHOULD JUST DIE.
.....
UMMM.
HEY!
NO IDEA WHAT TO SAY.
I-I REALIZE THIS IS GONNA SOUND INCREDIBLY TRITE, BUT, LIKE...CHEER UP! AND...STUFF.
THANKS.
"AND STUFF"?
BUT I CAN'T.

TIME TO GO HOME AND DRINK SOME DELICIOUS MILK! ☆

*MINIMONI: A SPLINTER SPIN-OFF OF THE J-POP SUPERGROUP MORNING MUSUME

SASAMEKE FIGURINES Vol.01

MATERIALS: POLYSTONE AND OTHER STUFF (MAYBE RUBBER?)

HEIGHT: ABOUT 4 IN

FIVE MODELS (PLUS SECRET MODEL)

580 YEN AT ALL IMAGINARY SHOPS NATIONWIDE, JUNE 31, 2003!!

SULKING RAKUICHI MODEL, CLUTCHING HIS SOCCER BALL REGRETFULLY

COMES WITH MAIKO'S FAVORITE NARA GREEN TEA MILK!

NORMAL TOUZAN HAS WHITE HAIR.

LIMITED EDITION HAS RED HAIR

INAE-CHAN ON A STALKING TRIP

WHOA, THESE ARE AWESOME!!

MATSURI STEPPING ON YOUKAICHI.

GO! SSMK

This is pen!! I like Sushi!!!!

SIGN: SMILEY LOANS

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO BOUGHT IT, THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED OUT, AND THANKS TO EVERYONE!
★★

OKAY! IT'S SPRINGTIME IN JAPAN, AND HERE'S VOLUME 3!

I AM A HAPPY MAN

I NEED A VACATION SOMEWHERE

SDR

I DOUBLED MY WORKLOAD THIS YEAR, AND IT'S DRIVING ME NUTS!

ALL IN MY IMAGINATION.

BUT I'D PROBABLY JUST GET YELLED AT, SO I'LL KEEP IT REAL INSTEAD.

I'M STILL AN ADULT ...

I KNOW HOW IT WORKS

ON THE OTHER HAND, I LIKE ROBOT AND MONSTER TOYS MORE, SO MAYBE I'LL JUST TRY TO PUT SOME GIANT ROBOTS AND SPOOKY MONSTERS IN SASAMEKE INSTEAD.
★

ALL THE STUFF ON THE PAGE TO THE RIGHT IS IMAGINARY, BUT I TRULY HOPE TO MAKE IT REAL SOMEDAY.

MOOHOO!

MOOHOO!

SOMEONE MAKE THEM

HAD SOME FREE SPACE...FOR ADVERTISING!

NOW SELLING SASAMEKE T-SHIRTS ONLINE.

MATSURI MODEL

MAIKO MODEL

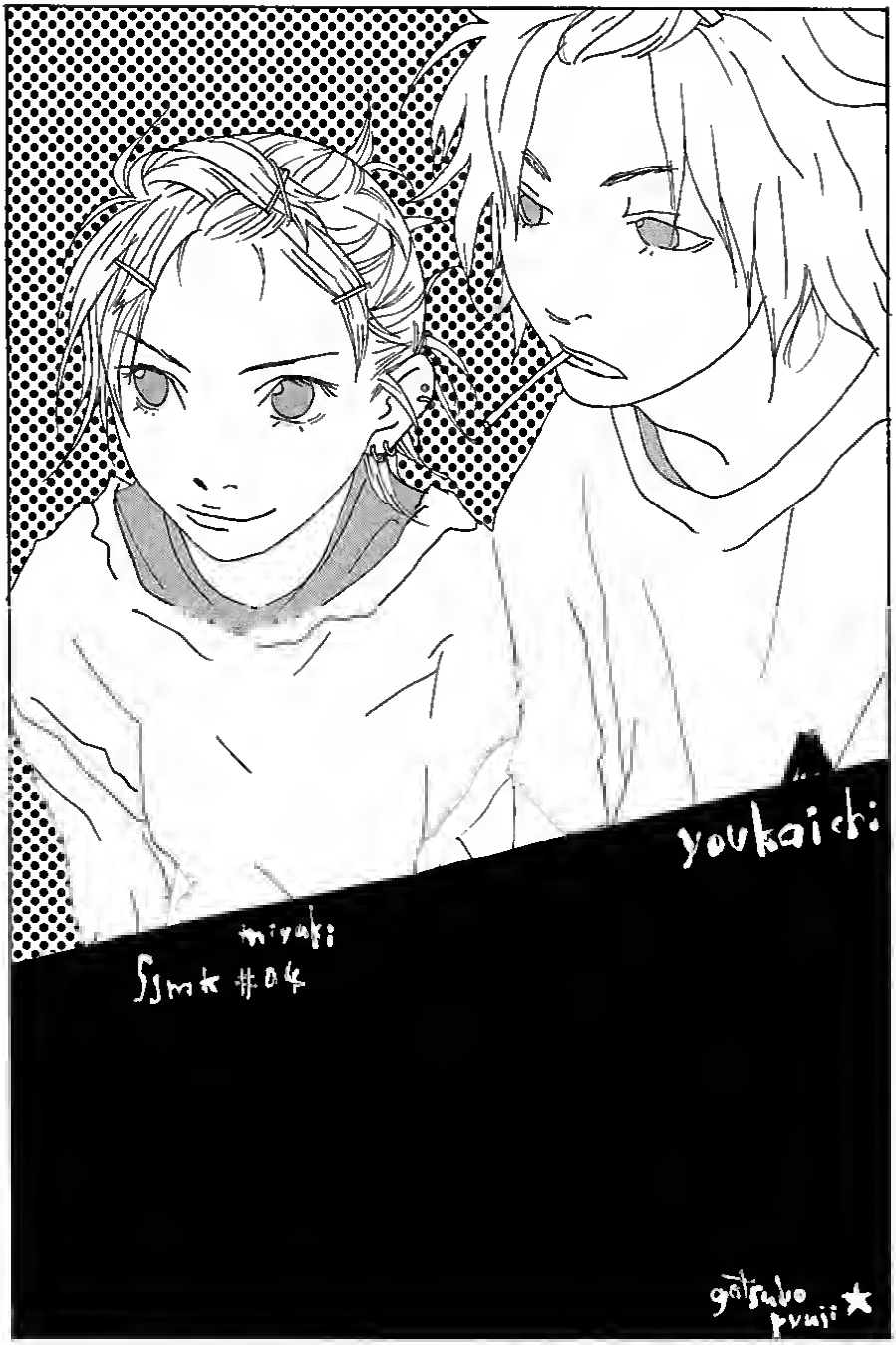
I THINK THEY HAVE MOUSEPADS AND STUFF TOO! ★

SIZES AND COLORS AVAILABLE! GET THE NUMBERED EDITIONS, NO. 00-99! OH YEAH!!

NOTE: NO LONGER AVAILABLE. BUT THEY SURE LOOK AWESOME, HUH?

NOPE, NO REAL PUNCH LINE HERE. SEE YOU NEXT VOLUME!
★

I WANTED TO WRITE A REAL AFTERWORD, BUT THE DEADLINES! OH, THE DEADLINES! MAYBE NEXT TIME!



THE END

MANGA: RYUJI X GOTSUBO (FOUR-EYED BEARDO)

THREE-YEAR MANGAKA WHO FONDLY WISHES FOR A COMEBACK OF

THE 50-YEN GU*NDAM* STICKER-AND-GUM PACKS OF HIS YOUTH.

(THE ONES THAT HAD ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS OF SCENES FROM THE MOVIES.

THE SQUARE ONES.

YOU WOULO GET RGM-79 GM A LOT.

OOES ANYONE AROUNO AGE THIRTY REMEMBER THESE?

WEREN'T THEY AWESOME?

YEAHI IF I HAD ONE WISH IN THE WORLD,

IT WOULO BE FOR THEM TO COME BACK.

I TOOK THEM TO MY KINDERGARTEN ONCE AS A KIO AND GOT YELLEO AT.

ALSO, I WISH FOR HAMBRABI AND JAMRU-FIN AND THE-O AND AMPHIBIOUS MS

TO COME OUT IN THE MG FIGURINE LINE.)

STAFF LIST

ART ASSISTANT: MASARU-SAN (FOUR-EYEO BALOY)

PLANNING ANO OTHER: THE ELOER GOTSUBO (BEARDEO BALOY)

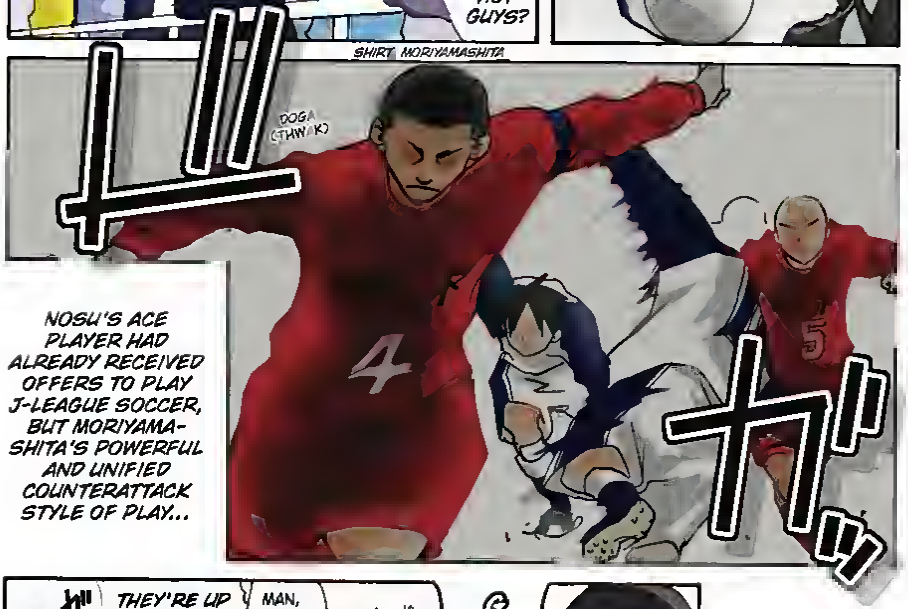
WEB ARCHITECT: SASSHI-SAN FROM FACILITIES OEPT. (MASARU)

APPLIANCES: NAOE-SAN (FOUR-EYEO BALOY)

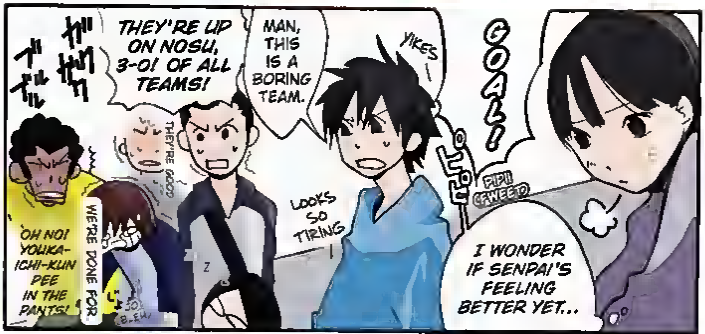
BUNNY: OISMISSAL CHAIRMAN (PAPER GLASSES)

SASAMEKE

SHIRT: MORIYAMASHITA



NOSU'S ACE PLAYER HAD ALREADY RECEIVED OFFERS TO PLAY J-LEAGUE SOCCER, BUT MORIYAMASHITA'S POWERFUL AND UNIFIED COUNTERATTACK STYLE OF PLAY...


THEY'RE UP ON NOSU, 3-0! OF ALL TEAMS!
MAN, THIS IS A BORING TEAM.
YIKES
GOAL!
PIPU (CHEER)
THEY'RE GOOD
OH NO! YOUKA-ICHI-KUN PEE IN THE PANTS!
WE'RE DONE FOR
LOOKS SO TIRING
I WONDER IF SENPAI'S FEELING BETTER YET...

...WAS OVER-WHELMING.

SFX: GAKU (SHIVER) GAKU, BURU (TREMBLE) BURU

#04

SASA

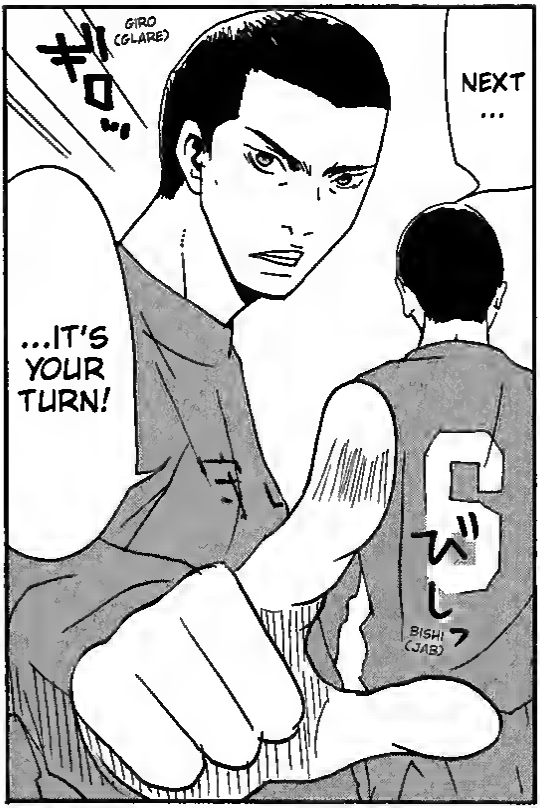
MEKE

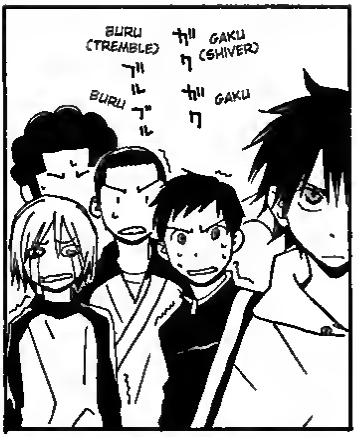
MEKE

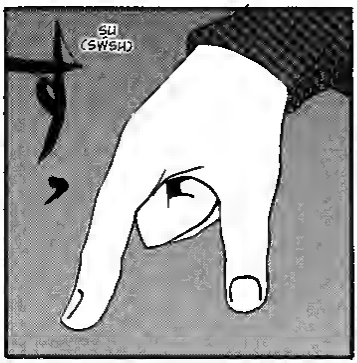
#04

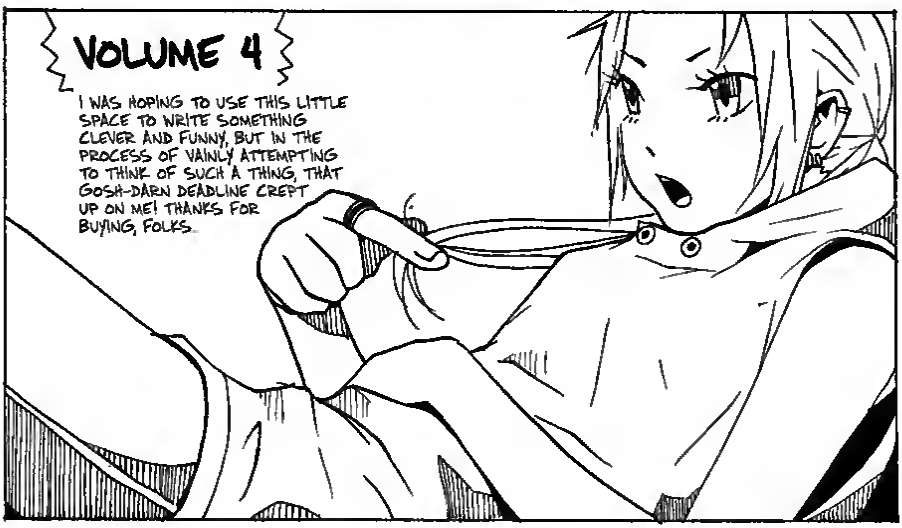
関係者以外
進入禁止

12


GIRO (GLARE)
NEXT ...
...IT'S YOUR TURN!
BISHI (JAB)


BURU (TREMBLE)
GAKU (SHIVER)
BURU
GAKU


SU (SWSH)

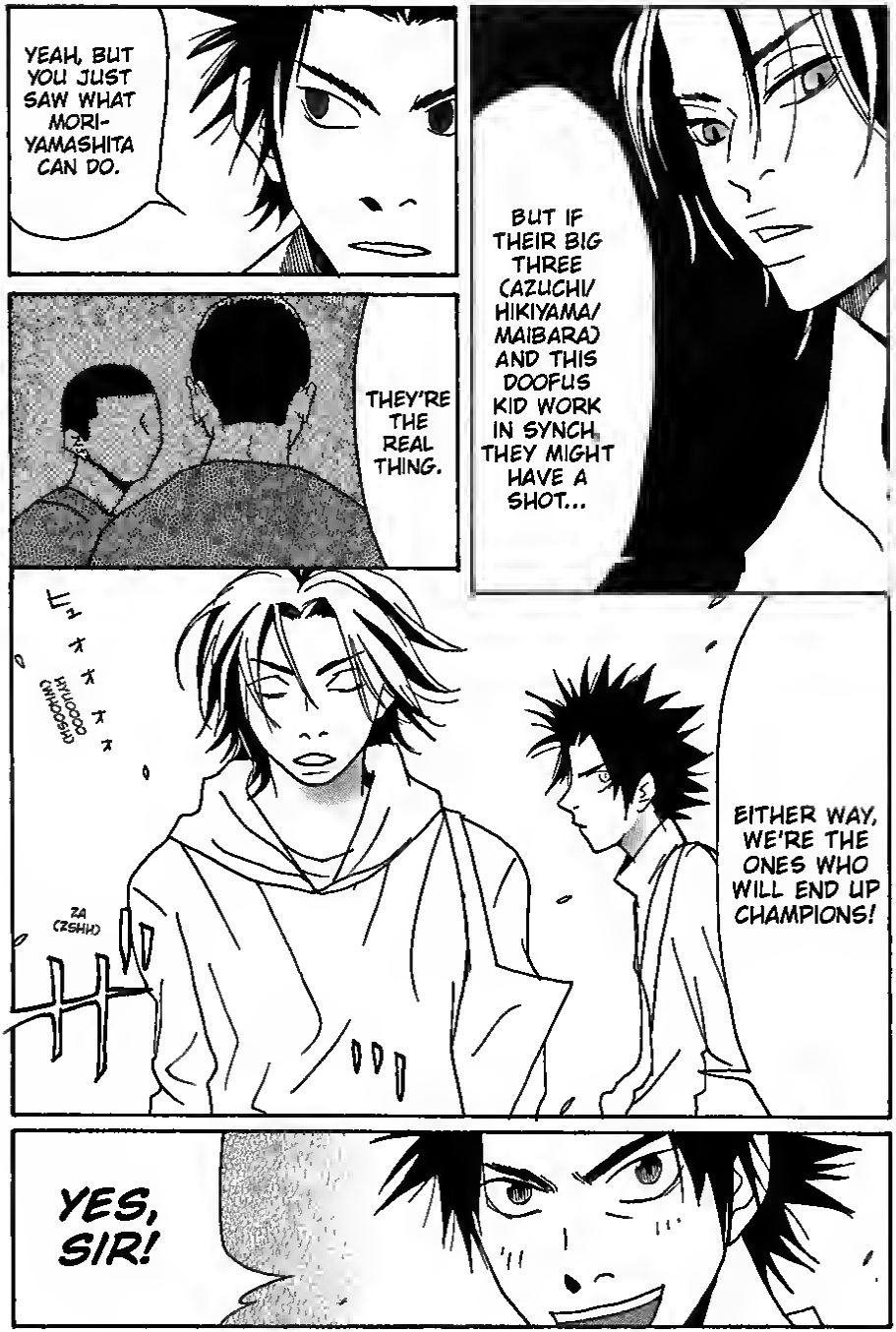

VOLUME 4
I WAS HOPING TO USE THIS LITTLE SPACE TO WRITE SOMETHING CLEVER AND FUNNY, BUT IN THE PROCESS OF VAINLY ATTEMPTING TO THINK OF SUCH A THING, THAT GOSH-DARN DEADLINE CREPT UP ON ME! THANKS FOR BUYING, FOLKS.

HAH!
UH, NAGA-HAMA?
KUU (LIKE?)
YOU'LL WISH IT WAS SOMEONE ELSE AFTER YOU GO DOWN, TURD!
THAT'S WHAT WE WANT!
HE'S TALKING TO THEM.
HEH..
4
AUGHI
.....!
SH-SHUT UP!
GET OFF MY BACK, OKAY?
KAAA (BLUSH)
PFFT
DWEEB..

DAM-MIT!
BA (LEAP)
RAKU-ICHI?
SO I'M NOT EVEN IN THE CONVERSATION, BIG BOY!?
TSK!
SEE? THEY'RE NOT FOCUSING ON US. THAT'S OUR CHANCE, TEAM...
HEH HEH HEH.
GRR...
SETA
HUH?
WHO'S THAT?
HEY YOU!
BALDY!!
SUTAN (STOMP)

WE'RE YOUR NEXT OPPO-NENT, CHUMPS!
DON'T ACT LIKE WE AIN'T EVEN HERE!!
YOU SHOULDN'T BE WORRIED ABOUT THEM BECAUSE YOU'RE GETTING YOUR ASSES HANDED TO YOU NEXT GAME...BY US!
HA HA.
NAGA-HAMA ...
FIRST IT'S ONE GUY, THEN ANOTHER.
SHEER EMBAR-RASSMENT
THEN WE'RE GONNA CRUSH THOSE DUDES WITH THE WUSSY LONG HAIR (HATASHOU) AND THE STUPID-ASS SPIKES (IBUKI)...
...AND SEIZE THE TICKET TO THE NATIONWIDE TOURNAMENT FOR OURSELVES!!
REMEMBER THAT!!

SHIRT: MORIYAMASHITA

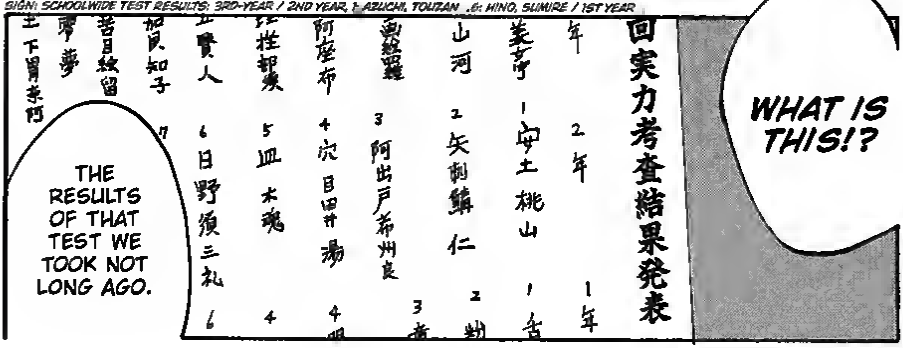

YEAH, BUT YOU JUST SAW WHAT MORI-YAMASHITA CAN DO.
BUT IF THEIR BIG THREE (AZUCHI/ HIKIYAMA/ MAIBARA) AND THIS DOOFUS KID WORK IN SYNCH, THEY MIGHT HAVE A SHOT...
THEY'RE THE REAL THING.
EITHER WAY, WE'RE THE ONES WHO WILL END UP CHAMPIONS!
ZA (ZSHH)
YES, SIR!

...WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU IN THE FINAL!
THAT'S THE MAIKO-SENPAI I KNOW AND LOVE
HA HA HA!
YOU ARE THE SORRIEST SCHMUCK EVER.
SHUT UP!
NAGAHAMA...
SO LAME. SO LAME.
HA HA HA HA!
THANK YOU FOR COMING TO THE GAME YESTERDAY, SIR.
NOT AT ALL.
NEXT DAY.
KAAAN (DAAAANG)
KOOON
KIIIN (DIIIING)
KOOON (DOONG)
KIIIN
KOOON

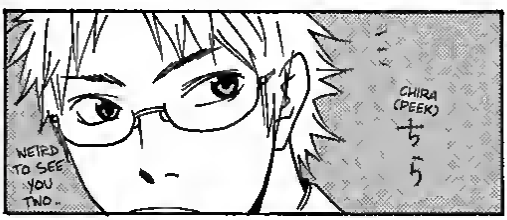
SIGN: CHIKU

GOOD. I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT MATSURI AND MAIBARA AT THIS POINT...
HE'S MUCH BETTER, I HEAR.
HOW IS AZUCHI-KUN'S INJURY?
YEAH! ♡
WE'VE BOTH GOT A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD. LET'S GO AND GET IT.
MWA HA HA!
YES, COVERING UP YOUR HABITUAL TARDIES AND ABSENCES AND HOOKING YOU UP WITH A HOT BACHELOR. I'M ON IT.
JUST LEAVE THEM TO ME...AND DON'T FORGET OUR LITTLE AGREEMENT...
BOSO (WHISPER)

SIGN: SCHOOLWIDE TEST RESULTS: 3RD-YEAR / 2ND YEAR, 1: AZUCHI, TOUJAN ...6: HINO, SUMIRE / 1ST YEAR



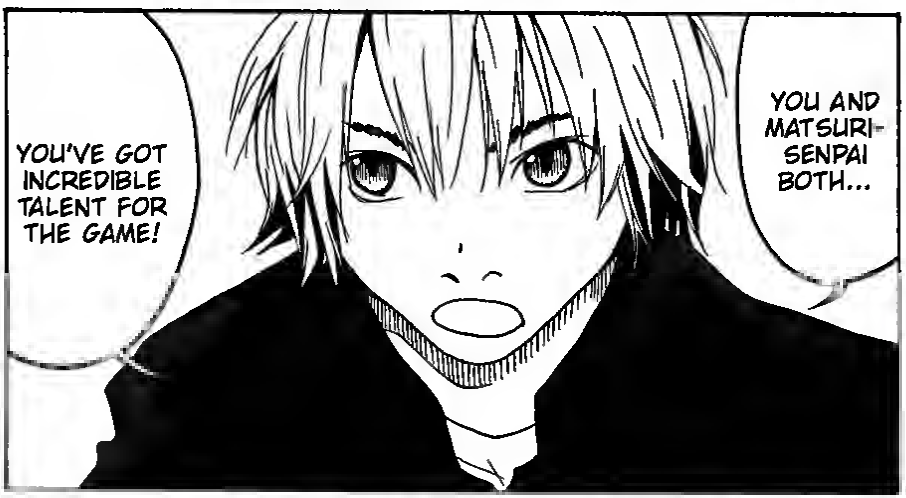
SIGN. TRY HARDER NEXT TIME / (CIRCLED NAMES) 278: HIKIYAMA, MATSURI, 282: NAIBARA, NORITSUGU, 255 YOUKAICHI, HAJIME, 268. NAGAHAMA, RAKUICHI

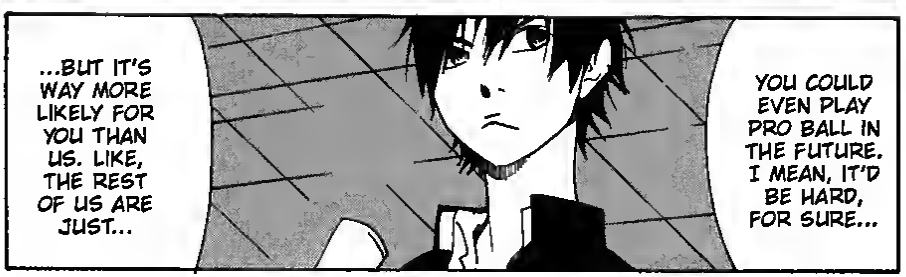


SIGN. FACULTY ROOM

I MEAN ...
...WORK HARDER AT SOCCER!
BAH. YOU THINK THESE ARE GRADES THAT CAN BE IMPROVED WITH A BIT OF STUDY HERE AND THERE?
HEH HEH
THAT'S NOT SOMETHING TO BRAG ABOUT, MORON.
NNAAAH.
YOU WANT BETTER RESULTS? WORK HARDER.
SERIOUSLY.
OH! SENSEI.
BUT YOU STILL HAVE TO STUDY!
OKAAAY!☆
YAHOO!
SO GULLIBLE.
PLUS, IF YOU MAKE A BIG SPLASH NATIONALLY, YOU MIGHT FIND THAT GIRLS LIKE YOU!!
!!
IF YOU CAN PUT DOWN "MADE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT" ON YOUR RESUME, IT MIGHT MAKE UP FOR YOUR PISS-POOR GRADES A BIT!
TEACHERS AREN'T DEMONS, YOU KNOW...

YOU'RE LUCKY, MAN, KNOW THAT?
WHY?
YOU'VE GOT SOCCER SKILLS.
KIIIN (CHIIING)
KOOON (DOOONG)
KAAAN (DAAANG)
KOOON
12HR
WHOO-HOO! TIME FOR LUNCH!
YAY!
WOO!
WHY SHOUT IT?
SO THE READERS KNOW!


YOU'VE GOT INCREDIBLE TALENT FOR THE GAME!
YOU AND MATSURI-SENPAI BOTH...


...BUT IT'S WAY MORE LIKELY FOR YOU THAN US. LIKE, THE REST OF US ARE JUST...
YOU COULD EVEN PLAY PRO BALL IN THE FUTURE. I MEAN, IT'D BE HARD, FOR SURE...

OH YEAH... I FORGOT, HE WENT TO ITALY AND COULDN'T HACK IT...
NAGA-HAMA?
I MEAN, NO! THAT'S FOR OTHER PEOPLE! I COULD HANDLE IT, EASY!
CRAP!
AFTER ALL, I'M A GENIUS!
IT ISN'T THAT EASY, DORK!
YES!
ALL OVER YOU...
YOU JUST KEEP TELLIN' YOURSELF THAT.
THAT'S RIGHT!
ONCE I'VE TURNED INTO A STAR, THE LADIES WILL BE ALL OVER ME!

HUH?
KYAAAAA~
MAKO-SENPAI
OH YEAH?
...
IT'S ONE THING TO BE A HIT WITH THE LADIES, BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON I WANT TO SEE ME PLAY...
SHUPAPPA (SHHHPP)
HYUU (WHOOSH)

MAIKO-SENPAI!
...UUM!...
MAIKO...
GEH!
THAT'S HER USUAL TRAINING!
TWELVE PETALS... NOT BAD. ☆
HUH?
WHAT'S SHE DOING?
SO BEAUTIFUL ☆
I... SEE.
HMPH
BA (WHIP)
BA
SHE NEVER FORGETS TO PUT IN HER DAILY WORK!
MAIKO-SENPAI ALWAYS TRAINS IN THE COURTYARD DURING LUNCH BREAK! ☆

*-DON IS A POLITE, FORMAL SUFFIX THAT IS USUALLY USED TO ADDRESS AN UNDERLING OR APPRENTICE
MAIKO-DON!* TODAY YE SHALL FINALLY ACCEPT MY MANLY CHALLENGE OF LOVE.
SHIRT: CHIKUBUSHIMA
PO (BLUSH)
A DUEL!
UGH, NOT YOU AGAIN.
COME ON, SENPAI!
RONRI
AT SOME POINT, A RUMOR GOT STARTED ...
DOKI DOKI (BADUM)
UH, WHAT?
THAT'S TSUCHIYAMA-SAN, CAPTAIN OF THE JUDO TEAM (6'7", 220 LBS)!
VIRGO, BLOOD TYPE B!
*(10,000 YEN TO PARTICIPATE)
PAKAN (THWAK)
...THAT BEATING MAIKO-SENPAI IN A FIGHT WOULD WIN THE RIGHT TO DATE HER.
"ALAS, I AM UNDONE."
AND EVER SINCE THEN, BRAVE AND FOOLHARDY MEN LIKE HIM HAVE BEEN CLOGGING UP HOSPITAL ROOMS...
INSTANT DEATH.

TO (TMP)
THAT'S MY MAIKO-SENPAI!!
I GUESS I DID HEAR THAT SHE SENDS ANYONE WHO TRIES TO HIT ON HER TO THE HOSPITAL ...*
WAAA (RAHHH)
STILL CAN'T MATCH UP TO MOM.
DAMN.
ZUZUN (ZMMM)
RAHH!
TOOK DOWN THAT SIX-FOOTER
*SEE PANEL 3, P.43, VOLUME 1
MESS ME UP!
MUH
HAA...
IS THAT WHO HE WANTS TO WATCH HIM!?
DO ME!

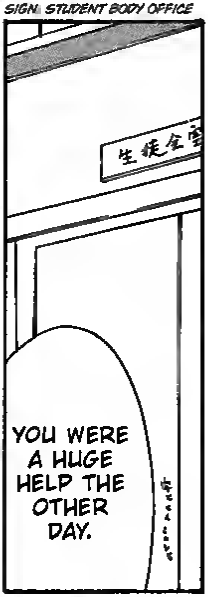
HA! HA! HA! MAN, YOU HAVE SO MUCH TO LEARN, PAL!
FUUU (SIGH)
HMMM.
MAN, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU SEE IN THAT CHICK...
すとん
SUTON (PLOP)
HAJIME YOUKAICHI, SIXTEEN YEARS OLD, MADLY IN LOVE WITH MAIKO. ☆
IT'S ALL ABOUT HER LOOKS, OBVIOUSLY!!
THAT'S 98% OF THE ATTRACTION!
SUCH PURE, INNOCENT EYES!!
ARE YOU SERI-OUS!?
キラ
KIRA (SPARKLE)
BAAAN!! (BOOM)

YOU KNOW, I VERY RARELY GET TOTALLY FOCUSED ON A SINGLE THING.
WHICH IS WHY I WANT TO TREASURE THIS FEELING AS LONG AS I CAN.
HEH HEH.
PORI (SCRATCH)
WOO-HOO! SCHOOL'S OVER!
TIME FOR PRAC-TICE!
TIME TO GO HOME!
SIGN: CHIKU, DOOR: SOCCER TEAM
HOW ARE YOU PLAN-NING...
SURU (SLIP)
YOUKA-ICHI...
SHIRT: SOUTH AMERICA
TOMORROW'S THE BIG SEMIFINAL WITH MORI-YAMASHITA!!
OKAY, TEAM!
....TO BEAT MAIKO?
YOU'RE GONNA DIE, BOY.
PATAN (THUMP)

WHAT A CAT-ASTRO-PHE!
SHE TENDS TO SKIP PRACTICE WHEN AZUCHI ISN'T AROUND ☆
I SWEAR, EVERY SINGLE ONE IS LIKE THIS..
OH, THAT GIRL?
WEIRD, I CAN'T SEE THROUGH THE TEARS..

LAPTOP. SOTEC LAPTOP

SIGN: STUDENT BODY OFFICE



GRAFFITI: LOVE AZUCHI-KUN

I'VE GOT TO GO TO PRACTICE.
...DO YOU REALLY HATE YOUR FATHER THAT MUCH?
YOU ARE DAD'S FAVORITE, AFTER ALL...
ズイ
ZUI (LOOM)
カタ (THUNK)
TOUZAN-KUN...
SFX: GIRI (GRIT) GIRI GIRI
THAT SNEAKY, EYE-BROWED VIXEN!
ギリ
ギリ
ギリ
EIKI (GRUNT)
MAJOR UPSET IN INAE-CHAN'S "MUST KILL SOMEDAY" RANKINGS TODAY, AS SUMIRE HINO SHOT TO #1...
BYE
スタ
SUTA
スタ
SUTA
スタ
SUTA (STOMP)
SURE WILL.
HAVE A GOOD TIME!

BA (ZSHU)
SIX-STRING SAMURAI
BA (THAKK)
YOU HAVE TO ADMIT...
...THE GUY'S GOT TALENT.
WHEN HE TAKES IT SERIOUSLY.
WHY ARE ALL OF OUR GOOD PLAYERS SO MESSED UP?
SHIKU (SOB)
SHIKU
SENPAI
WILL MAIBARA EVEN SHOW UP TOMORROW?
!
SIX-STRING SAMURAI
RAKUICHI WAS THE SAME AS ALWAYS.
DRIBBLE AND SHOOT ☆
DRIBBLE
MAX
PASS THE DAMN BALL!
YES.
PASS!
BUT THEN AGAIN, HE DID WILLINGLY SWITCH TO THE LEFT SIDE.
THAT'S SHOWING INITIATIVE TO HELP THE TEAM, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

PAPER: IRRANKILL OVERSKILL, CONA AGE 27!? (IN THE SERIES OVERMAN KING GAMER, EACH GIANT "OVERMAN" ROBOT HAS A UNIQUE OVERSKILL. CONA MADAYA IS A MECHANIC IN THE SHOW WITH A PRONOUNCED BABYFACE THAT BELIES HER GIVEN AGE OF 27

BASA! (FLAP)
DDD
WAIT— WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
WHOA!
PARDON!?
YOU WANT SOMETHING?
KURUN (SPIN)
くるん
HUH? WHAT IS SHE TALKIN' ABOUT?
YOU KNOW WHAT? I DON'T EVEN CARE ANYMORE
MAIKO-SENPAI!!
SIX-STRING SAMURAI
YOU SPORTS CLUBS ARE ALL THE SAME! USING OUR FUNDS, HOGGING THE FIELD...
AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE LIBERAL ARTS CLUBS COST JUST AS MUCH MONEY AS YOU DO!
I AM A REGISTERED STUDENT OF THIS SCHOOL, YOU KNOW.
AND THAT GIVES ME THE RIGHT TO GO WHEREVER I WANT ON SCHOOL GROUNDS, NON?
NON?

SHIRT: JORGE

SCHOOL SHOULD BE A SIMULATION, AN IDEAL PLAYING GROUND TO HELP US LEARN. IT SHOULDN'T BE A SMALLER VERSION OF SOCIETY AS A WHOLE...
WE'RE STUDENTS, NOT PROFESSIONALS.
YOU ARE, IN FACT, CRIMINALS WHO PROFIT THROUGH THE SIMPLISTIC, CUT-AND-DRIED FORMULA OF "WINNING = PRODUCTION," THUS GAMING THE SYSTEM!
ZUBISHI (JAB)
UHH.
YOU CALL THOSE PRANKS!?
DORKS!
POWAWAN (PUFF)
GET LOST!
I STILL LOVE YOU
SIX-STRING SAMURAI
BOO!
AND THAT'S WHY I KEEP PLAYING ALL THESE MEAN-SPIRITED PRANKS ON YOU SPOILED LOSERS WHO ARE USED TO GETTING EVERYTHING YOU WANT!
SHE'LL NEVER CHANGE.
ZAWA (MURMUR)
AS USUAL, THE CHICK IS FREAKIN' NUTS...!!
SIX-STRING SAMURAI
10
.....
SHONEN-MANGA STYLE!
YOU WANT TO USE THIS PART OF THE FIELD? THEN THOU MUST DEFEAT ME IN BATTLE!!
.....
THOU?
.....
10

SEE? LISTEN TO WHAT SHE'S SAYING!
WHAT'S THAT? IS IT TRUE? IS THE SOCCER TEAM A COLLECTION OF COWARDS AND NINNIES?
KUSU (GIGGLE)
KUSU
YOU GO YOURSELF, THEN.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE AMONG US WITH THE ATHLETICISM TO MATCH UP TO HER!
WHA!?
WHA!?
S-SO WHAT!?
GASHI (GRAB)
THIS ONE'S ALL YOU, NAGAHAMA!!
HUH!?
SIX-STRING SAMURAI
I'M YOUR MAN.
YOU'RE ON!
HEY!
HE'S GONNA GET HIMSELF KILLED!
WHOA...
ZA (SWISH)
AH! HYOU-KAHI-CHI!?

.....
OH.
SMART. HE DECIDED THE MEANS OF BATTLE FIRST.
FIRST STRIKE WINS!!
SENPAI!!
I CHALLENGE YOU TO A PENALTY KICK SHOOT-OUT!!
OH? THIS WHOLE TIME, I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A PIECE OF TOILET PAPER STUCK TO MATSURI'S FOOT...
I DUNNO ABOUT THIS..

BUT IF I WIN, SENPAI... YOU HAVE TO GO ON A DATE WITH ME.
NI (SMIRK)
I'LL GO FIRST.
OKAY.
GOOD LUCKY ...!!
WAS HE ALWAYS LIKE THAT?
YOUKA-ICHI...

NO WORRIES!
ZA (ZSHH)
DO IT, YOU-KA-ICHI!
LABEL: YOUKAICHI
GOU (WHOOSH)
SIX.
BO (BOOM)
BA (ZWIP)

AND THEN...
PAKON (THWACK)
WHAT WAS THAT!?
YOUKAICHI KYUN!
!!?
I WIN!!
FWA HA HA HA
HOW SO!?
SIX-STRING AHURA
PIKUN (TWITCH)
PIKUN
BUT...
...IN RECOGNITION OF YOUR BRAVERY, I'LL LET THIS ONE PASS.

WELL, YOU SEE ...
BLAH BLAH BLAH ...
MAN ...
...YOU ARE ONE DUMB DUDE.
HMMM
UH, WHAT?
ADIOS, AMIGO. (?)
SUTA (STOMP)
SUTA
YOU FORGOT YOUR SHOE.
HYUUUU (WHOOSH)
HEH.
ZA (SPIN)
KASA (RUSTLE)
KASA
YOUKAICHI.
HA HA!
WE HEARD YOUR STORY, YOUKA-ICHI.
DON'T SWEAT IT, MAN. YOU'LL FIND THE GIRL FOR YOU SOMEDAY.
...
THANKS, GUYS...
HEY, YOUKAICHI'S WAKING UP!
UH... NNG...
10
PACHI (BLINK)
ZA (ZSHH)
HAJIME-CHAN!

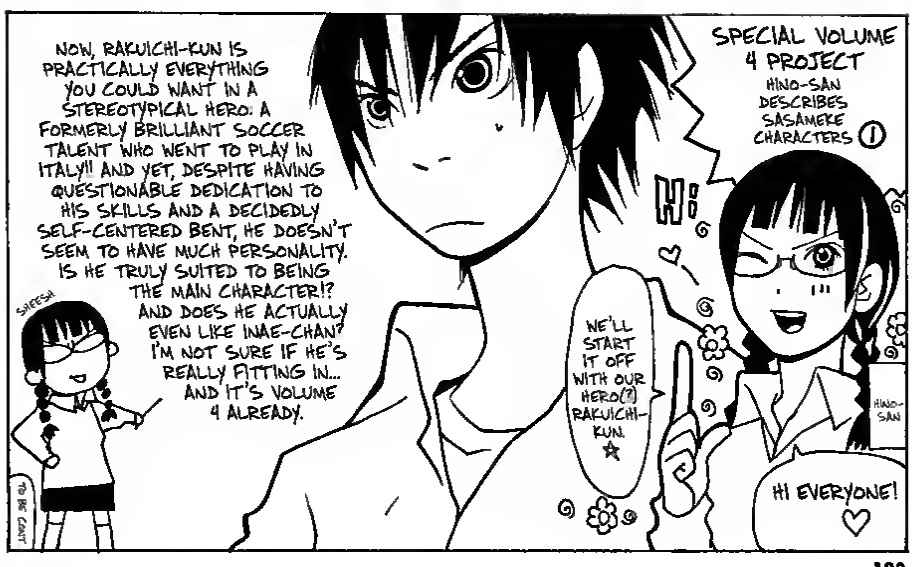
YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO GO CD SHOPPING WITH ME TODAY!!
HOW LONG IS YOUR STUPID PRACTICE GONNA LAST?
ZUI (LOOM)
HUH?
WHO'S THAT?
SHIRT. JORGE
UHHH, AND WHO IS THIS, YOUKAICHI-KUN?
WHO?
CUTE
SIX-STRING SAMURAI
S-SORRY...
BOOO...
YOU FORGOT, DIDN'T YOU?
HEYA.
MIYUKI HINATSU
!?
I'M HIS GIRL-FRIEND!
WE'RE IN LOVE!
SHE'S AN OLD FRI—
OH, THIS IS MIYUKI.

HE ALREADY HAS A GIRL-FRIEND!!?
GIRI (GRIT)
GIRI
.....
.....
DON'T SAY THAT WORD!
ICHA (FLIRT)
OH, YOU.
I'M NOT BEING SHY!
ICHA
WHY NOT? I AM YOUR GIRLFRIEND! DON'T BE SHY, YOU DWEEB.
.....
ZUUUN (ZMMM)
KIN (CING)
KAN (DANG)
KON
KON (DONG)
SCHOOL'S OVER. SCRAM.
WELL, SEEYA LATER!
SEMI-FINAL TOMOR-ROW...
AND YOU'RE LEAV-ING!?
GAN (SHOCK)
OH THERE YOU ARE LITTLE KITTY!
WELL, SEEYA, NAGAHAMA.
THANKS FOR WAITING, HONEY
ZORO
ZORO (PLOD)
YOU'RE LATE!
RAGN
EVEN AFRO-DUDE.
YOU GUYS TOO!?
YEAH.
はふー
HAFUU (SIGH)
SEMIFINAL'S TOMORROW, AND NOBODY'S IN THE RIGHT STATE OF MIND FOR IT. WELL, MIGHT AS WELL GO HOME...

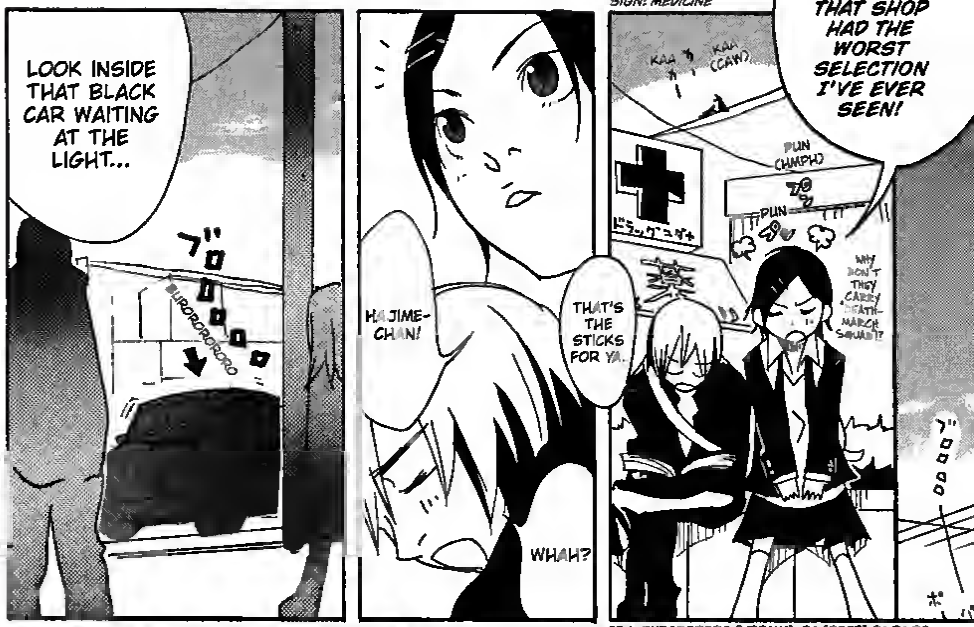
DON'T GET DOWN, RAKUICHI!
AM I THE ONLY ONE WITHOUT A GIRLFRIEND!?
DAMMIT! WHAT IS THIS PLACE, A ROMANCE NOVEL!?
IF YOU WORK YOUR HARDEST AT WHAT YOU DO, I GUARANTEE THAT SOMEONE, SOMEWHERE, IS WATCHING.
WAAA (GRUNT)
I HAVE SOCCER... AND IT'S ALL I NEED!!!
SIX STRING SAMURAI
ZUD DADA (ZOOOM)
...THE KIND OF ATTENTION YOU WANT!!
UH.
PASHA (CLICK)
POP!
IT JUST MIGHT NOT BE...

#17
SMALL WORLD OF TROUBLE

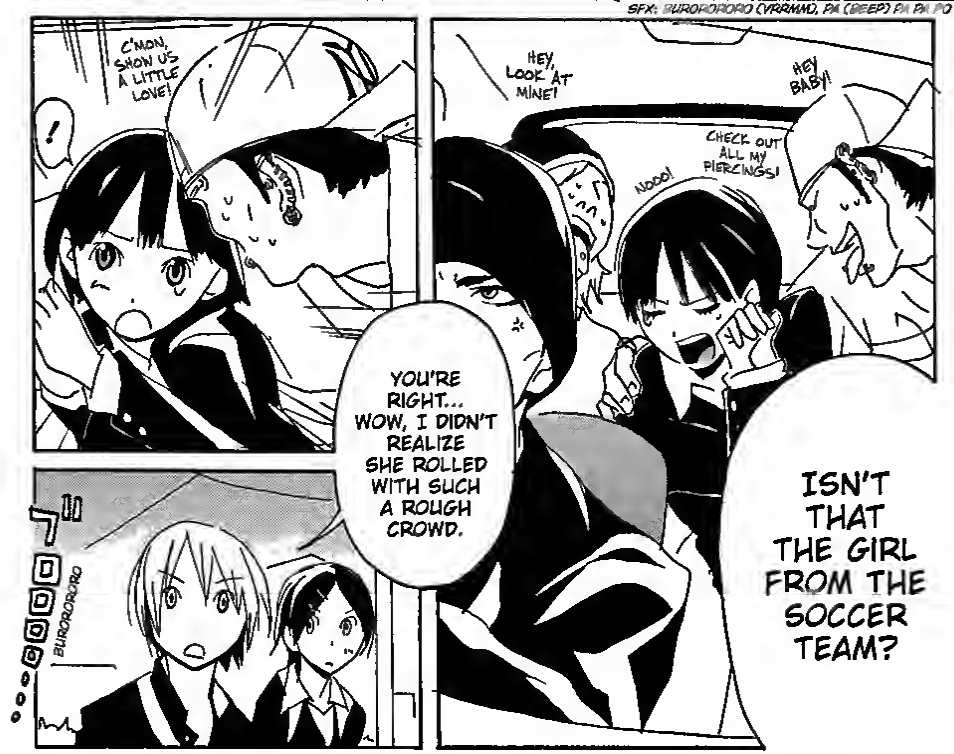
HE'S SO HOT TODAY.
♡
PO? (BLUSH)
DOKI (BADUM)
DOKI
TEKU (TMP)
TEKU
KAA (CAW)
KAA
SA (SWISH)
PIT (SQUISH)
HEE ♥HEE!
PASHA (CLICK)
NEARLY EVERY SINGLE DAY, INAE-CHAN KINDLY OVERSAW TOUZAN'S WALK HOME...


SPECIAL VOLUME 4 PROJECT
HINO-SAN DESCRIBES SASAMEKE CHARACTERS ①
HI!
WE'LL START IT OFF WITH OUR HERO(?) RAKUICHI-KUN. ☆
HINO-SAN
HI EVERYONE! ♡
NOW, RAKUICHI-KUN IS PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING YOU COULD WANT IN A STEREOTYPICAL HERO: A FORMERLY BRILLIANT SOCCER TALENT WHO WENT TO PLAY IN ITALY!! AND YET, DESPITE HAVING QUESTIONABLE DEDICATION TO HIS SKILLS AND A DECIDEDLY SELF-CENTERED BENT, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE MUCH PERSONALITY. IS HE TRULY SUITED TO BEING THE MAIN CHARACTER!? AND DOES HE ACTUALLY EVEN LIKE INAE-CHAN? I'M NOT SURE IF HE'S REALLY FITTING IN... AND IT'S VOLUME 4 ALREADY.
SHEESH
TO BE CONT

WHA...?
SU (SWISH)
BURORORORO (BRRMM)
WELL, TIME TO GO...
BATAN (SLAM)
BATAN
BATAN
MAKE IT QUICK!!
KIKII (SCREECH)
BUWON (VWOOOM)
EEK!
I'M COMING.
KON (KNOCK)
KON
IT'S TIME FOR THE MEETING.
BURORORORO



SFX: BURORORORO (VRRRMM), PA (BEEP) PA PA PO


C'MON, SHOW US A LITTLE LOVE!
!
HEY, LOOK AT MINE!
HEY BABY!
CHECK OUT ALL MY PIERCINGS!
NOOO!
YOU'RE RIGHT... WOW, I DIDN'T REALIZE SHE ROLLED WITH SUCH A ROUGH CROWD.
BURORORORO
ISN'T THAT THE GIRL FROM THE SOCCER TEAM?

AAAAH!!
H-H-HAJIME-CHAN!
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
KIKII! (SCREECH)
BIKU (TWITCH)
BURORO
YOUKA-ICHI-KUN, HEL—
BLIRON (VROMM)
YIKES!
SHUT UP!
HUH!?
SFX. GASHI (GRAB)
PA (FLIK)
HWAAH... (YAWN)
AHOO (BAWK)
AHOO
A-AMBU-LANCE!
WE NEED TO CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!!
G-GET A GRIP ON YOUR-SELF, HAJIME-CHAN!
CAN'T WAIT TO GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP...
SO TIRED
TOPPURI (DARKNESS)
...SO I CAN GET MY BRILLIANT GAME ON TOMORROW. ☆☆☆
NOW THAT'S A PLAN
TEKU (TMP)
TEKU
KIRAAAN (SPARKLE)
AND THEN THE HEART OF EVERY GIRL ON THE PREMISES WILL BE MINE!
ESPE-CIALLY INAE-CHAN'S.
NIYARI (SMIRK)
HEH HEH HEH

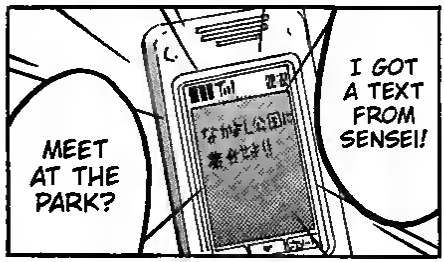
WE'VE GOT BIG TROUBLE!!
WHAT'S UP? WHY WE ALL OUTSIDE?
HUH? WHAT?
OH, NAGA-HAMA.
OH?
BUTSU
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUT WHAT IF I WAS SO POPULAR THAT SHE DIED OF SEETHING JEALOUSY?
SHAKE
BUTSU
RAKU-ICHI!
IT TURNS OUT INAE-CHAN'S BEEN KIDNAPPED (WE THINK)!!
WHAAA!?
I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS. YOUKAICHI-KUN SAYS HE SAW HER BEING DRIVEN AROUND IN A BLACK VAN...!
AND WE CAN'T REACH HER CELL!
WHAT? BY WHO!?
!?

YOU WORTHLESS SLUG!!
YAHH!
DOGA (STOMP)
B-B-BUT!
DON'T WE HAVE ANY CLUES TO GO ON? LIKE THE LICENSE PLATE NUMBER?
WE DON'T HAVE A DAMN THING.
I'VE GOT SETA OUT GATHERING PEOPLE TO HELP LOOK FOR HER.
...THAT I'VE SEEN THE GUY WHO WAS DRIVING IT BEFORE ...
HA (GASP)
...AND I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK...
THERE WERE SOME PRETTY THUGGISH STICKERS ON THAT VAN...
ANYHOW, LET'S SPLIT UP AND LOOK FOR HER!
WAOOM (WHOOO)
RIGHT!
AH
GAN (GONK)
WHAT!? WELL, REMEMBER HIS NAME, YOUKAICHI!!
GA (WHAAO)

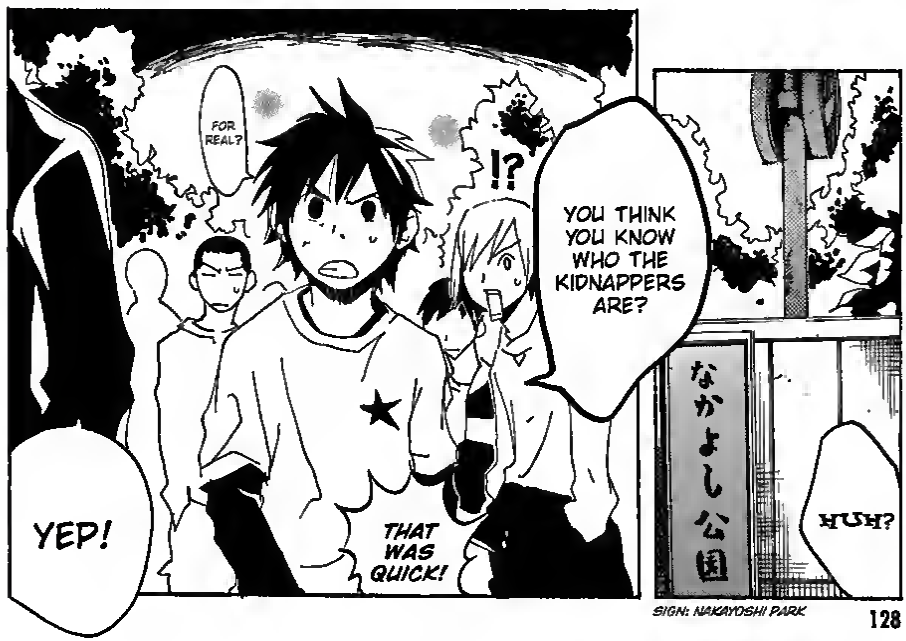
PHONE: INCOMING CALL INAE KAWASE
HELLO?
BRRRING
BRRRING
KACHI
KACHI (CLICK)
KAWASE? STRANGE...
PURURURURU (BRRRING)
MEOW!
GO ON, BARK!
The captain of Chiku-bushima?
A GUY'S VOICE?
Or,
KACHI
PI (BEEP)
KACHI
(MEMO.)
Is this Azuchi-kun?
OOOH, GOTTA SNAP THIS ONE UP.
KACHI
If you want her back, you'd better—
PARDON ME, SIR.
KON (KNOCK) KON
DON'T SAY A WORD, SWEETIE
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'VE GOT YOUR CUTE LITTLE MANAGER HERE WITH ME.

SIGN: HOME DELIVERY

SH-SHUT UP! WHY DON'T YOU BLAME THE THUGS WHO KIDNAPPED HER, NOT ME?
YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN PAYING MORE ATTENTION!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT!
JIRIRIRIN (BRRRING)
PI (BEEP) PI PI
PO, PO, PO

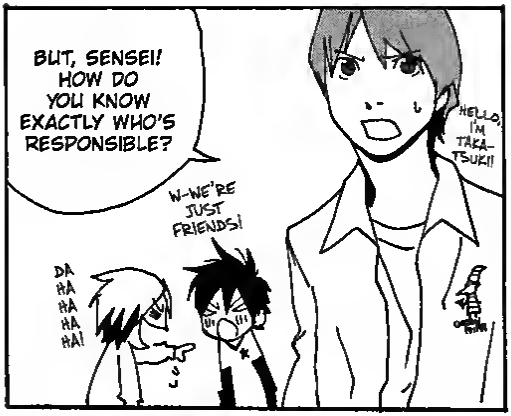


PHONE: MEET AT NAKAYOSHI PARK!!

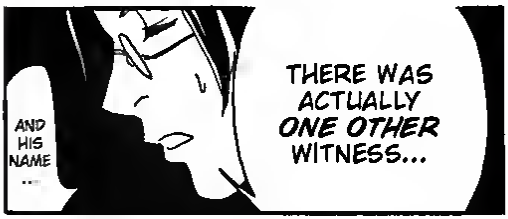


SIGN: NAKAYOSHI PARK

STICKER: MADO HANI!
REMEMBER HOW YOUKAICHI THOUGHT HE SAW SOME THUGGISH STICKERS ON THE CAR?
WE THINK IT'S A HERD OF WANNABE GANGSTERS CALLED THE "MAD HONEYS"!
THEY'RE USUALLY FOUND LOITERING AROUND LATE-NIGHT PLACES NEAR THE HARBOR!
UGH! WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH THUGS?
OH, SHUT UP!!
TIME TO GO HOME!
WHEN YOUR PEOPLE NEED YOUR HELP...
...YOU DON'T STOP TO WORRY ABOUT WHO YOU'RE UP AGAINST!!
HEH HEH...


BUT, SENSEI! HOW DO YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHO'S RESPONSIBLE?
HELLO, I'M TAKA-TSUKI!
W-WE'RE JUST FRIENDS!
DA HA HA HA HA!

YEAH, PLUS WE ALL KNOW YOU LIKE INAE-CHAN. ☆
DOKI (BADUMP)
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
REALLY?
OH?
WHAT!?


THERE WAS ACTUALLY ONE OTHER WITNESS...
AND HIS NAME ...

ZAWA (SWOOSH)
INAE-CHAN WAS ABDUCTED RIGHT OUTSIDE OF TOUZAN'S HOUSE!
HE SAW THE WHOLE THING HAPPEN!
OH REALLY?
BUT WHY THERE?
HUH?

...IS TOUZAN AZUCHI!
MUGYUU (SQUISH)
EH?

AND THEN, HE GOT A THREATENING CALL FROM INAE-CHAN'S PHONE, AND THE GUY TOLD HIM, "YOU'D BETTER LOSE TOMORROW'S GAME, OR ELSE!"
THAT WOULD MEAN...
WELL, IT'S AZUCHI
HE USED THE CAR'S LICENSE NUMBER AND THE STICKERS AND SUCH...
...TO LOOK UP THE OWNER OF THE CAR. THEN HE MESSAGED ME.
WHY DIDN'T HE JUST HELP HER?
WH-WHY WOULD SHE BE THERE?
BE-CRRSE SHRR LRKS HRRM
HRR, HRR.
...THE KID-NAPPERS MUST BE...
...FROM THE MORI-SHITA TEAM...
...OR SOMEONE RELATED TO THEM IN SOME WAY, PERHAPS...?
OHHH!!
GA (GONK)
THE GUY WHO WAS DRIV-ING!
BA (CLEAP)
YEOW!
SHIKU (SOB) SHIKU
HE'S MORI-SHITA'S ...
I KNOW HIM...

...TEAM CAPTAIN!
SAAA (WHOOSH)
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
WELL, IN THAT CASE!
DISMISSED! GO ON HOME!
FINALLY★
YOU LEAVE THE REST UP TO ME.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
YES, MA'AM!
YOU NEED TO GET IN YOUR BEDS AND REST UP FOR TOMORROW'S GAME!
Y-YOU CAN'T GO ALL BY YOURSELF! IT'S DANGEROUS! WHAT ABOUT THE POLICE!?
OH, DON'T SWEAT IT. MORE IMPORTANTLY, SETA, MAKE SURE YOU BRING MAIBARA TO THE FIELD TOMORROW AT ANY COST.
THEY'LL BE HELPLESS UNLESS THEY PULL SOMETHING OFF HERE!
UH, IT SEEMS LIKE THEY ALREADY DID...
I NEED YOUR HELP, TRUE CAPTAIN.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF, RAKUICHI.
YEAH! I'M IN TOO!
AHH, IMPETUOUS YOUTH
I'M NOT PUSHING IT!!
GOT IT!
DA (DASH)
C'MON, YOUKAICHI!!
...HMPH... THEN LET'S GO!!
WE'RE COMING FOR YOU, INAE-CHAN!!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE
WHY ME!?
NO!

SIGN. MOHAWK CAFE GERONIMO

SAID HE'S BUSY... HE ALSO DOESN'T MIND LOSING TOMORROW AS LONG AS SHE COMES HOME SAFE AND SOUND.
I GUESS HE CARES ABOUT HUMAN LIVES MORE THAN A SOCCER GAME...
TIME TO GO.
ZAWA
SO WHY DID AZUCHI HELP SO MUCH, THEN NOT COME?
ZAWA (MURMUR)

BOTTLES: DEMON, CROC, URCHIN

HUH?
WHAT'CHOO WANT?
ETO?
HIGH (PONG)
HE'S ONE OF THE GUYS WHO DID IT!
I RECOGNIZE HIS PIERCINGS!!
THAT'S HIM, NAGA-HAMA!!
.....
OH.
OOPS.
GA (THUD)
WE'RE THE CHIKU-BUSHIMA SOCCER TEAM!!
EEK, I'M SCARED!
LEGGO A'ME!
TCH!
BA (GNATCH)
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!?
WHAT'S THIS?
MAIKO!
NOW WHERE THE HELL HAVE YOU TAKEN OUR MANAGER, YOU TURD!?
GUI (YANK)
!?
WAIT, ASS-HOLE!

BUT WHY?
OKAY, ON TO THE NEXT SECTION!
BA (ZOOM)
NAKITA
OOH! SHE'S SO MANLY
MAIKO, YOU HELP RAKUICHI TAKE DOWN THE PIERCED ABOMINATION!!
YOUKAICHI AND I ARE GOING AROUND THE BACK!!

I'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING AWESOME!
AND MY RE-WARD?
OH?
THEY'VE KIDNAPPED INAE-CHAN!

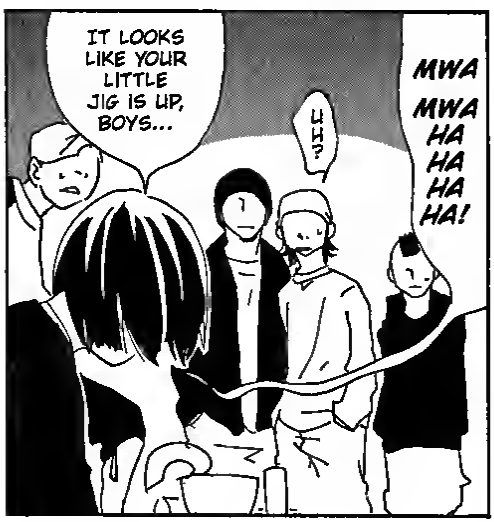
*UNDERAGE DRINKING IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.
DOKI (RADUMP) DOKI
TOOK DOWN ALL THOSE GUYS IN AN INSTANT ...
HELLO, BIWAKO? INAE-CHAN'S IN THE WARE-HOUSE DOWN AT THE HARBOR!
HAR BOR WARE HOUSE
THEY-
INSTANT DEATH!!!
WHERE DID YOU GUYS GO, ANYWAY?
PYON (BOING)
DEAL!
MAIKO.
HYU (ZIP)
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED, BIWAKO.
HEE HEE.
ONE-OFF CHARACTER
ZAZAA (FSHHH)
CHAPU (SPLISH)
CHAPU
MEAN-WHILE, DOWN AT THE HARBOR ...

I WANT DOUBLE THE AMOUNT WE AGREED UPON LAST TIME, AND NOTHING LESS!
.....
YOU'RE THE MAN!
NONE OF THAT, GOOD SIR! PLEASE, I BESEECH YOU!
I'M TIRED OF YOU! NO MORE DEALS!
...MATSURI AND THE PRINCIPAL WERE NEGO-TIATING.
ACK!
CHAPU
CHAPU
MAIKO AND THE KID...
GUTA (DASH)
ZHHHTA TA TA TA
YOU LITTLE BRAT...
HUNH!?
SAY WHAT!?

TCH!
THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY HERE RIGHT NOW!
WE GOT TROUBLE, KIBU! I GUESS TWO KIDS AND A CHICK IN GLASSES AND A CHICK WITH BLONDE HAIR ARE COMING TO GET THIS CHICK!
MAIKO-SENPAI?

WHAT'S UP?
YEAH.
YEAH.
OKAY, GOT IT.

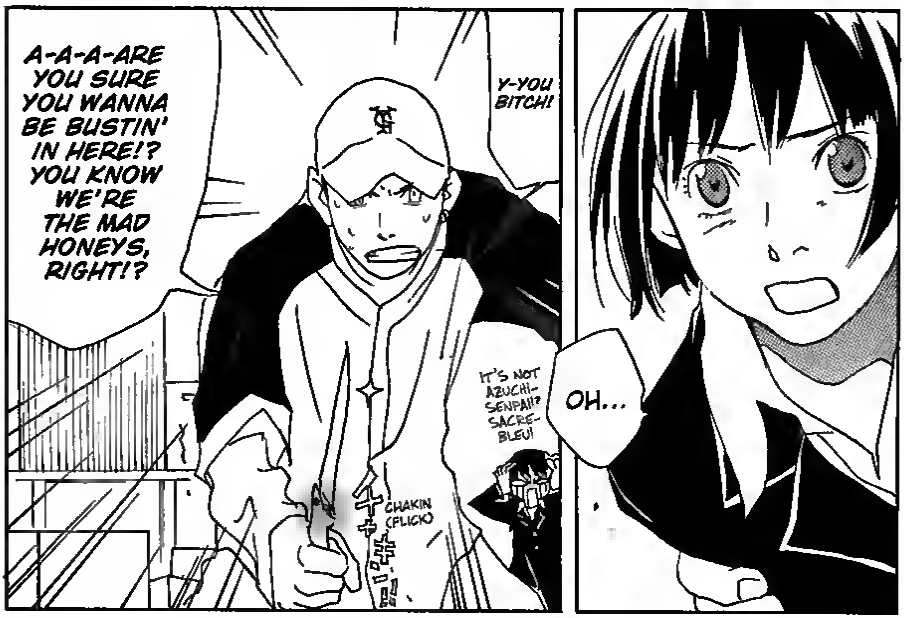
OH! IT MIGHT BE AZUCHI-SENPAI!
!!


IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR LITTLE JIG IS UP, BOYS...
HH...
MWA MWA HA HA HA HA!

SHOULD WE USE HER CELL TO WARN 'EM AGAIN?
NAH. FIRST OF ALL, WE CAN'T GET THROUGH TO ANYONE. PLUS THE ENTIRE CONTACT LIST JUST SAYS "AZUCHI-SENPAI"...
WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
OH, IF ONLY..
OH, IF ONLY..
EEEEK!

I THINK YOU'LL FIND THAT MY FUTURE PRINCE HAS COME TO SAVE ME. ☆
すっ
SUKKU (RISE)
HUH!?
KUSU (GIGGLE)
KUSU
KUSU
AND HIS ARRIVAL WILL BE THE MOMENT OF YOUR DEMISE ...
WHAT IS SHE GOING ON ABOUT...? IT'S SCARY.
YOU TAWDRY, BOORISH SCUM!
WHOA, WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?
KUSU
KUSU
PREPARE TO MEET YOUR DOOOOM!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GUYS SO FREAKED OUT ABOUT!?
BUT SHE'S CREEPY!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
DON (WHAM)
DON
HUH!? WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE DOOR!?
BIRI (RATTLE)
BIRI
GAYAAN (CRUNCH)
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
SFX: PARA (SPRINKLE) PAP
HA-HA-HA! CAN YOU HEAR THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE REAPER AS HE APPROACHES!?
C'MON, THIS WAY.
DON
MY PRINCE!!
DOKAN (CK...BOOM)
BAGYA (CRUNCH)
GAYAN (CRUNCH)
WHAAA!!!?

NAUGHTY LITTLE CHILDREN IN THE HOUSE!? YOU'RE DEAD IN TWO SECONDS!
YOU ASKED FOR US! HERE WE ARE!
BOOYAA!
ZUDOOOOON (KABOOOM)
I'LL ASK AGAIN: ARE YOU HUMAN!?
GOWA (WHOOSH)
DOBAAAN (BWAAAM)


A-A-A-ARE YOU SURE YOU WANNA BE BUSTIN' IN HERE!? YOU KNOW WE'RE THE MAD HONEYS, RIGHT!?
Y-YOU BITCH!
IT'S NOT AZUCHI-SENPAI!? SACRE-BLEU!
CHAKIN (FLICK)
OH...

SFX: GUSHA (CRUNCH), BAKI (CRACK)
OH CRAP!
B-BATTLE DEMON!
INAE-CHAN!
YOU KNOW WHY YOU IDIOTS DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS? BECAUSE KIDS THESE DAYS DON'T READ ENOUGH MANGA, DAMMIT!!
YOU DON'T ACTUALLY THINK THIS SCENE HAS BEEN WRITTEN WITH YOU WINNING IN THE END, DO YOU!?
NICE TRY, SON!
DOSA (WHOMP)
DOSA
GUSHA (STOMP)
TCH!
HAA (SIGH)
OH, JUST RAKU-ICHI...
I'M HERE TO S—
WOW, WHY IS SHE SO BUMMED?
BA (ZIP)
BAKI
MEH
GWEH!
JET!
HEY...
YOU'RE THE GUY FROM MORI-SHITA ...!!
GUSHA

I MEAN, LOOK, I KNOW IT'S HARD WHEN YOU GOTTA PLAY A BRILLIANT GENIUS LIKE ME, BUT...
SHUT UP!!
KIBU? ...
HAA (SIGH)
SHUT UP!
SHUT UP, SHUT UP, SHUT UP!!
SH... SHUT UP!
ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU FOOLS CAN'T PULL OFF A WIN WITHOUT SOME LOW-DOWN SHENANIGANS LIKE THIS!?
GIRI (GRIT)
YOU GUYS SHOULDN'T BE PULLING THIS KIND OF CRAP
GU (CLENCH)

...YOU AREN'T SUPPOSED TO...

I DON'T KNOW, HOW WOULD I!?
HOW WOULD YOU...HOW WOULD YOU GUYS KNOW...?

...YOUR TEAM ISN'T SUPPOSED TO WIN!!
HUH? WHAT DO YOU—
S-SETTLE DOWN, PEOPLE! WE HAVE A HOSTAGE HERE!!
IDIOTS!
PACHIN (SNICK)
BA (SNATCH)
!?
WAIT!!
PAKAN (CLONK)
Why!
WHY ME!?
COLLATERAL BOMBING!!
!!
GOGA (THWACK)

EVILDOERS BEWARE! YOU WILL DIE A HUNDRED DEATHS FOR YOUR MISDEEDS!
CAME IN THROUGH THE WINDOW.
NEVER FEAR! THE HOODED HATE IS HERE!
HOODED KICK!
NOOO!
WHY IS EVERY SINGLE PERSON I KNOW HERE?
AND YOU'RE NOT WEARING A MASK...
GAH (WHONK)
GACK!
MY PRINCE!
IT'S BOUND TO BE HIM THIS TIME!
BOX TANGERINES
NOT SO FAST!!
KA (FLASH)
!!?
G-GREAT, THERE'S MORE OF 'EM...
WHAT'S THE DEAL?
SCREW IT! I'M OUTTA HERE!
DA (DASH)
YOU GUYS ARE GONNA GET IT FOR THIS!

!!?
DON (BOOM)
DEATH
Funazush!
FUNAZUSH!: SUSHI MADE WITH CRUCIAN CARP (A CLOSE RELATIVE OF THE GOLDFISH), KNOWN AS "FUNA" IN JAPANESE.
YOU ARE ENTIRELY SURROUNDED.
GO (RUMBLE)
GO
GO
GO
GO
GO
GO
SURRENDER, AND HAND OVER INAE!
I'M SCARED!
BIWAKO!
WAIT, AH!
BARI (VRMM)
BARI
IT'S ALREADY OVER?
.....
HEH HEH...
I HAVEN'T DONE THIS IN YEARS...
TH-THAT'S THE FLAG OF THE MOST POWERFUL GANG IN THE PREFECTURE: THE DEATH FUNAZUSH!!!
WE'RE GONNA DIE!
WHAT HAVE WE DONE!?
EEEEK!
SAVE ME!
DOES THAT MEAN THE LEADER UP FRONT IS THE LEGENDARY DEATH-GLASSES!?

JACKET: ANTI-WAR
P-PLEASE, I DON'T WANT TROUBLE
MY NAME'S MIKI, NICE TO MEETCHA.
KI-KI-KI, YOU'RE KINDA CUTE.
CHIRP!
CHIRP!
WELL, WE'RE ALL SAFE, AND THAT'S WHAT REALLY MATTERS.
JACKETS: NORTH SOUTH EAST WEST CENTER, UNDEFEATED, LOVE THE EARTH, TENHA FIST, SEASON'S GREETINGS, HAPPY NEW YEAR, HAVE A GOOD ONE
OF COURSE!
HEH!
I DIDN'T NEED THE PUSH OF MY FARTS.
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
ZZZ.
MAYBE YOU ARE MY TRUE PRINCE.
BEAT FOUR OUT OF SIX.
BEAT ONE.
WENT CRAZY
DIDN'T ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING.
ONEE-SAN, MAYBE WE COULD GO OUT AND...AHH, WHO AM I KIDDING?
YOU'RE NOT HALF BAD AT THIS, RAKUICHI!
BUT THE MASTERMIND OF THIS DIRTY PLAN STILL GOT OFF SCOT-FREE...

SORRY, BOYS! I NEED A BIT MORE WORK OUTTA YOU!
PA (SWOOSH)
RIGHT BEHIND YA!
WE'D NEVER TURN DOWN A REQUEST FROM YOU!
WITH PLEA-SURE!!
HERE WE GO, YOU SLUGS!
SHE'S LIKE NINJA KINONI!*
BUT THEIR CAR IS STILL RIGHT OUTSIDE.
HMMM.
HE COULD STILL BE IN THE AREA.

*ACTRESS WHO GAINED FAME FOR HER ROLE IN THE HIT '80s TV SERIES UBUNAI DEKA (DANGEROUS COPS) IN WHICH SHE PLAYED A COOL, SASSY POLICE INSPECTOR.

SFX: BUWON (VROOM) BUWON PA (HONK) PA BUBOBOO (VRRRM) BUON (VRUM) BURON (VRUM) PARAIRA (HONK) PARAIRA

...YOU OKAY?
YEAH.
INAE-CHAN...
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON.
THANKS, EVERYONE.
HAHAA

SUN-RISE.
CHUN (TWEET)
CHUN
FURA (SWOON)
HOW PRETTY ☆
TAKE A LOOK!
SIGH... MAN, I'M TIRED. ★
SERIOUSLY. TIME TO GO HOME, TAKE A NICE BATH, AND GET SOME SHUT-EYE!
NO SUR-PRISE
NI (SMIRK)
HA-HA, TELL ME ABOUT IT! ☆
THE ONLY THING IS...

...TODAY'S THE GAME!
EEK!
I JUST REMEMBERED!!
OH MY GOD!
NOOO!
ACK!
!!?
OH CRAP! I HAVEN'T HAD A WINK OF SLEEP!!
I GOT UP AT 8 P.M. LAST NIGHT! I'M FINE!
HEH HEH HEH
I GOTTA GO HOME AND CATCH SOME Z's!
CRAP!
NO! IF YOU FALL ASLEEP NOW, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO WAKE UP IN TIME!!
WHY DOES EVERYTHING ALWAYS HAVE TO GO LIKE THIS!?
DA (DASH)
DA
WAAAH!
JUST THREE HOURS UNTIL KICKOFF! WHAT IS THE FATE OF TOMORROW'S CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH!?
NO TODAY!

TOTAL JERK WHO WAS BORN WITH GIFTS GREATER THAN OTHERS IN EVERY REGARD HIS FATHER RUNS SOME SHADY BUSINESS STUFF. HE AND MAIKO APPEAR TO BE COUSINS, BUT RUMORS (WHOSE?) STATE THAT THEY COULD EVEN BE SIBLINGS FROM DIFFERENT MOTHERS... HOWEVER, MY RESEARCH HAS DETERMINED THAT THEY ARE COMPLETELY UNRELATED BUT AT THIS POINT IN TIME, ONLY GOD KNOWS IF IT WILL ACTUALLY BE ADDRESSED IN THE MAIN STORY.

PS. HE SEEMS TO BE KEEPING AN EYE ON RAKUICHI-KUN.

IN FACT, I SOMETIMES FIND MYSELF AT TOUZAN-KUN'S HOUSE DOING SHADY PART-TIME WORK. HEE-HEE! ★

TO BE CONT.

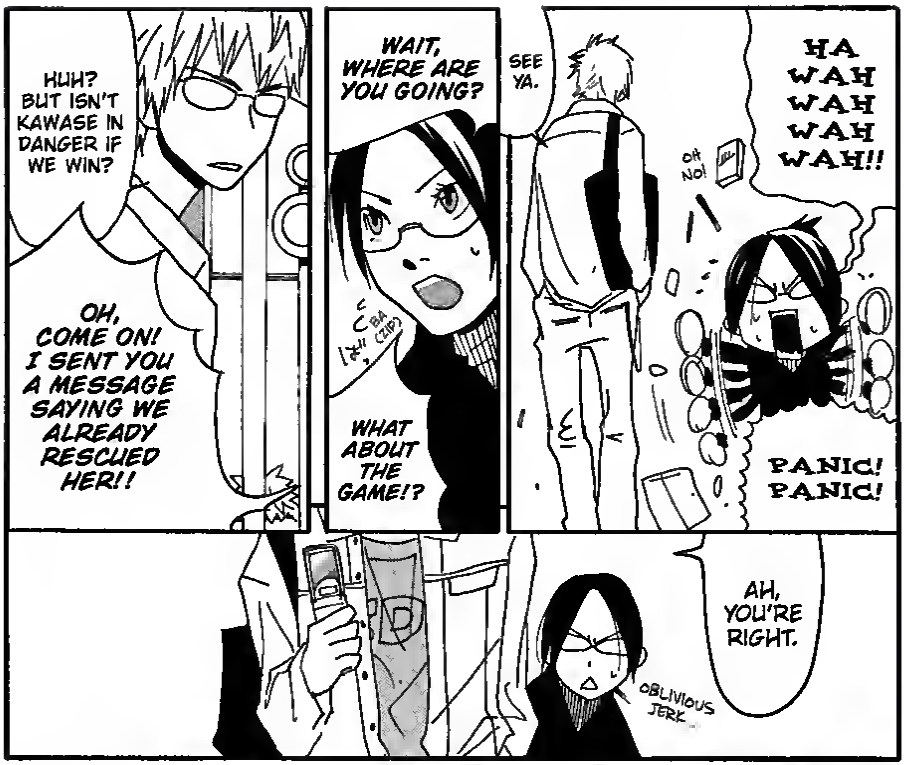
SPECIAL VOLUME 4 BLAH BLAH
HINO-SAN DESCRIBES SASA-CHARA BLAH (2)
IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
SIGN OF YOUTH
WE'RE COVERING TOUZAN-KUN THIS TIME! ★
HINO-SAN

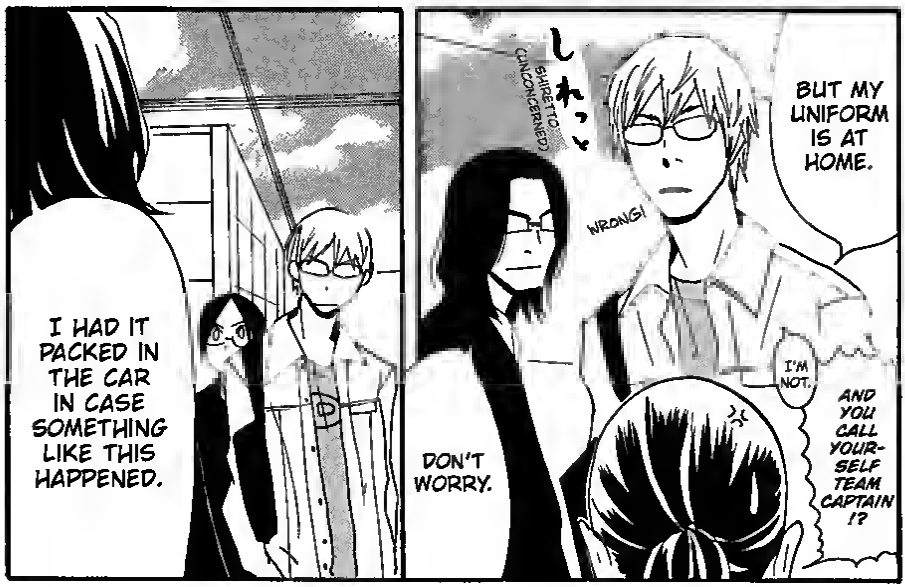
OH, THAT'S KUSATSU HIDARI...THEY PLAY THE GAME AFTER OURS.
I GUESS THEY'RE WARMING UP?
KYAAAA! HATASHOU-SAN!
SFX: GAYA (CHATTER) GAYA
SIGH ...
KAY
WHAT'S THAT?
CHIKUBUSHIMA
8
BUT WE'VE GOT MATSURI-SENPAI AND MAIBARA HERE BEFORE THE GAME TODAY. WE CAN MANAGE, RIGHT?
SO LUCKY.
...BUT WHAT IS AZUCHI DOING? WE RESCUED INAE-CHAN... YOU HAVE NO EXCUSE NOT TO SHOW UP NOW!
KIND OF LOSERISH ATMOSPHERE.
GUU (SNORE)
GAK (ZZZ)
...WHEN, AT THAT MOMENT, KANNUROU'S WILD BLACK HORSE PLUNGED BETWEEN THE TORI OF NAMI'S FEET...
JURI (SCRAPE)
.....

THEY DON'T STAND A ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE OF BEATING MORI-SHITA.
SERIOUSLY
HA HA
THEY THINK THE WHOLE THING'S A JOKE.
10
AND IT LOOKS LIKE CHIKUBUSHIMA IS SHORT ON PLAYERS AGAIN TODAY!
I DON'T EVEN SEE AZUCHI.
DO (TNK)
TCH.
WHAT, REALLY?
SUCH A SHAME
PON (BONG)
AND I WAS HOPING WE'D GET TO PLAY THEM IN THE FINAL.
RAHHH!
RAHHH!

SIGN: IMMORAL BANK
悪徳銀行
AKUTOKU BANK
AT THAT TIME, AZUCHI...
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP.
GOOD POINT...
YEAH. I MEAN, THEY LOOK SO EASY TO BEAT. ☆
AZUCHI!!!/ ...NO, WHERE'S SENSEI?
NASTY!
EWW, YOUKAICHI BARFED!
RAAAH!
DIE!
BLAGLANGL
SFX: PEKO (BOW) PEKO
THANK YOU AGAIN.
AND NOW I MUST BE OFF.
GEH...
I HOPE OUR RELATIONSHIP IS FRUITFUL FOR YEARS TO COME.
CERTAINLY
I SHOULD SAY THE SAME.
...WAS BUSY WITH SOME SORT OF WORK.
BWA HA HA HA HA!

SIGN: CONVENIENCE STORE
コンビニ
!!
SUTA (TMP)
スタスタ
SUTA
WOW, THEY'RE TALL...
YOU'RE THE MAN OF THE MATCH, LADY!
OINK!
GERA (CACKLE)
GERA
YOU THINK SO?
YOU'RE A HOT ROD! A PURE-HEARTED MIDNIGHT LONELY WOLF! THE LEADER OF THE PACK!
HA HA HA!
MAN, YOU RIDE LIKE THE WIND, BOSS!! YOU RIP!! YOU'RE BEYOND FAST!! YOU'RE A V.I.P.!!
SIGN: HELP WANTED. BINS: BURNABLE TRASH, CANS
ISN'T TODAY THE BIG GAME?
REP YOSELF, FOOL.
GNACK!
OH CRAP, YOU'RE RIGHT!!
HE'S TALL, OINK.
HEY TOUZAN! IMAGINE SEEING YOU HERE!
HUH? WHO'S THAT? OINK
...UHH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
A GROWN WOMAN LIKE YOU, LOITERING IN FRONT OF THE CORNER STORE...


HUH? BUT ISN'T KAWASE IN DANGER IF WE WIN?
OH, COME ON! I SENT YOU A MESSAGE SAYING WE ALREADY RESCUED HER!!
WAIT, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
CHA CHIP!
WHAT ABOUT THE GAME!?
SEE YA.
OH NO!
HA WAH WAH WAH WAH!!
PANIC! PANIC!
AH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
OBLIVIOUS JERK

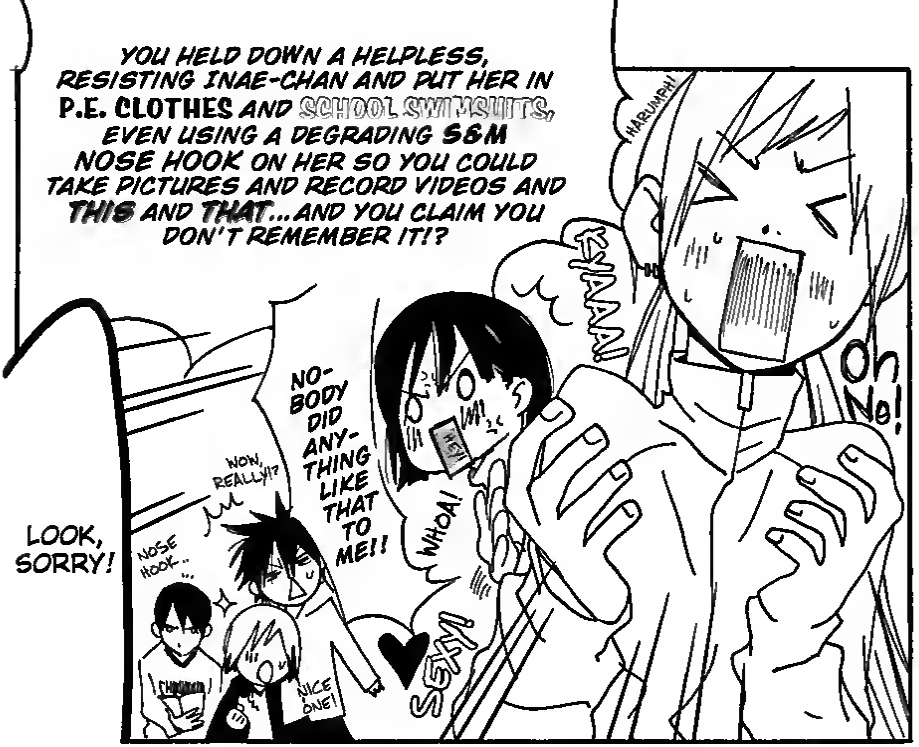

I HAD IT PACKED IN THE CAR IN CASE SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED.
DON'T WORRY.
しれっ
SHIRETTO (UNCONCERNED)
WRONG!
BUT MY UNIFORM IS AT HOME.
I'M NOT.
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF TEAM CAPTAIN!?

SIGN: WORKER TRAINING SEMINAR

OHH, THERE THEY ARE.
ZORO (PILE)
ZORO
SO WHO ARE WE PLAYING TODAY, SETA-KUN?
MORI-SHITA, THE TEAM THAT REACHED THE SEMIFINALS LAST YEAR! THE DEFENSIVE MASTERMINDS WITH A GAME LIKE AN IMPENETRA-BLE STEEL WALL...AND WHY DON'T YOU KNOW THESE THINGS? YOU'RE THE TEAM CAPTAIN!
YAHAN!
GOOOO (GYZZ)
!!
PIN (PING)
KUWA (SNACK)
DON (BOOM)
ZA (ZSHH)
SHIRTS: MORIYAMASHITA

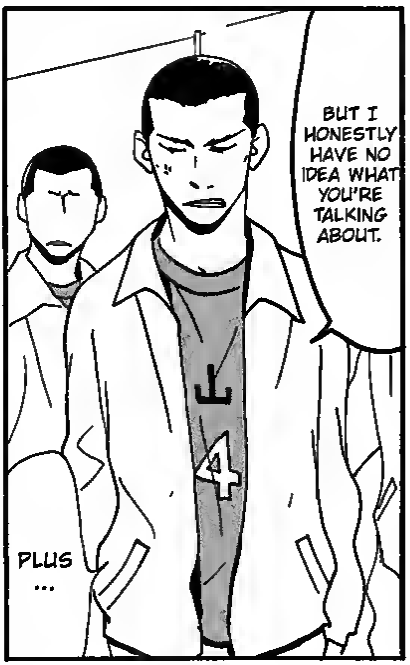
* CATCHPHRASE OF LITERARY DETECTIVE KOSUKE KINDAICHI, OF THE KINDAICHI CASE FILES. UTTERED WHENEVER HE CRACKS A CASE

YOU SHINY BALD TWERPS!!!
SENPAI, THEY CAN SEE YOUR PANTIES!
WHAT?
BAAN (BAMM)
WHAT!? HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO HIM THAT WAY!?
OF WHAT?
...GUILTY?
KIBUKANA-SAN DOESN'T DESERVE THIS!
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT!
GA (TMP)
YEAH, MAIKO-SENPAI!
BLONDIE!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY!!
NI (GRIND)


YOU HELD DOWN A HELPLESS, RESISTING INAE-CHAN AND PUT HER IN P.E. CLOTHES AND SCHOOL SWIMSUITS, EVEN USING A DEGRADING S&M NOSE HOOK ON HER SO YOU COULD TAKE PICTURES AND RECORD VIDEOS AND THIS AND THAT... AND YOU CLAIM YOU DON'T REMEMBER IT!?
HARUMPH!
KYAAA!
Oh No!
NO-BODY DID ANY-THING LIKE THAT TO ME!!
WHOA!
HEY!
LOOK, SORRY!
WOW, REALLY!?
NOSE HOOK...
NICE ONE!
SEXY

...I WISH YOU WOULDN'T ACCUSE US OF THIS CRAP RIGHT BEFORE WE COMPETE.
GIRDR (GLARE)

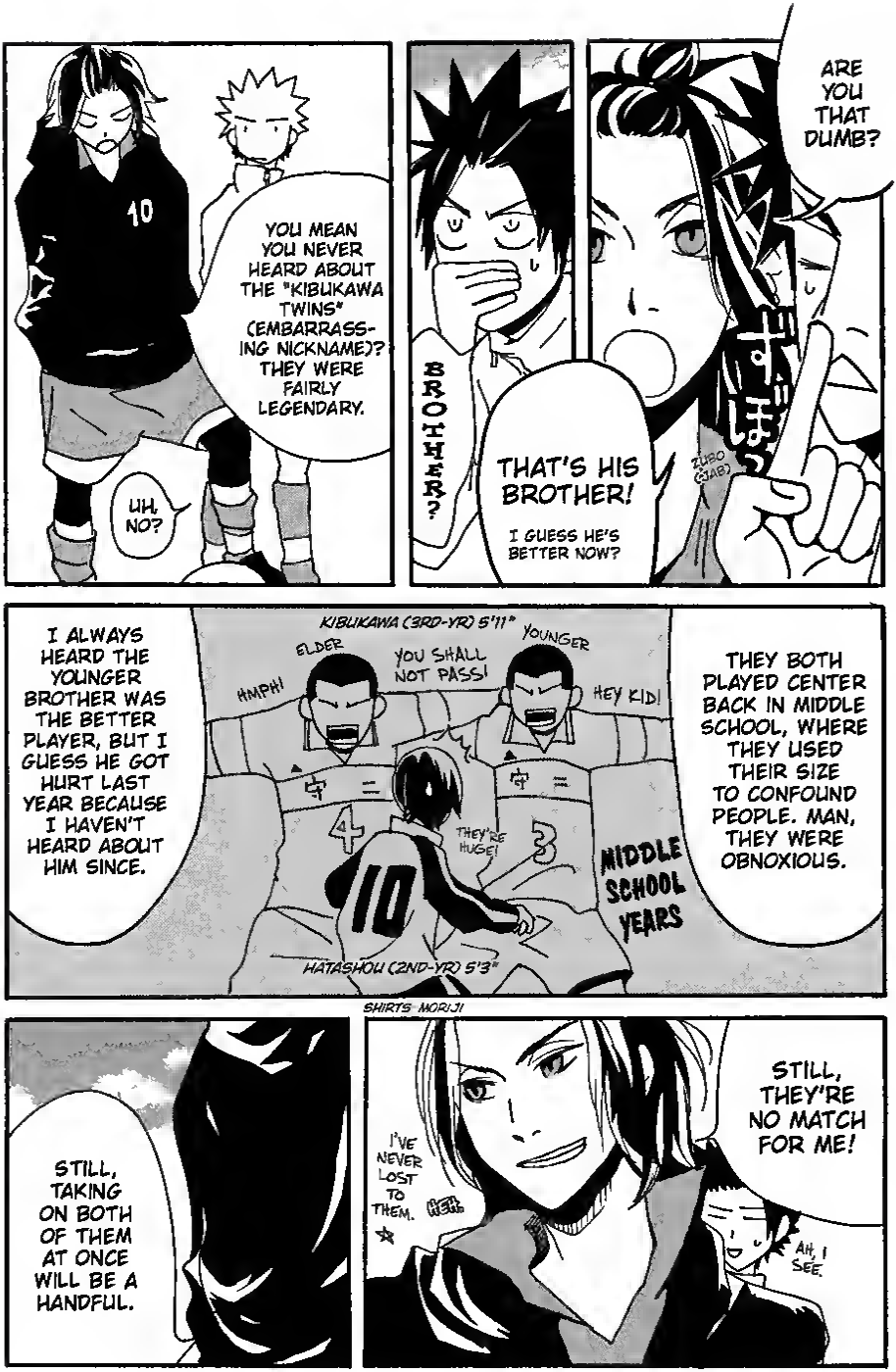
SAY WHAT!?
WE'LL KILL YOU!
HEY!
WHO'S TALKING CRAP!? IT'S YOU GUYS!!
DON'T PLAY DUMB!

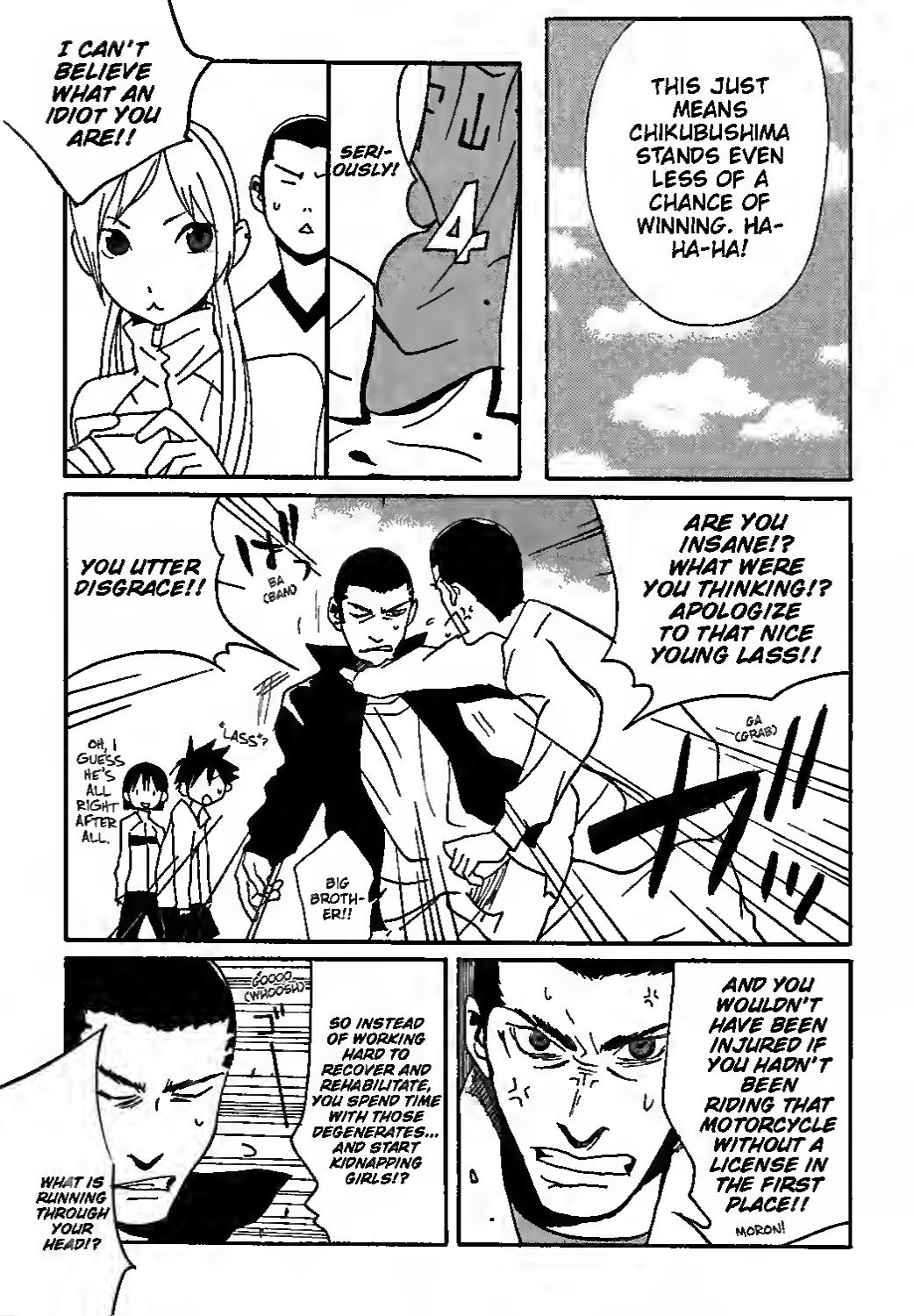

BUT I HONESTLY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
PLUS ...

HE'S NOT THE GUILTY ONE.
ZA (ZSH)
STOP, RAKU-ICHI!
YOU!!
DA (DASH)
!
BIWAKO!!
AND AZUCHI-SENPAI!!
EEEK!!
DAN (WHAM)
SEN-SEI!
THE GUY YOU'RE LOOKING FOR...

BUT... THEY'RE IDENTI-CAL!
DOBIKKURI (SHOCK)
どぶっくり
HOW WEIRD!
THEY'RE TWINS...
IT'S THE, UH.. DOPPLER EFFECT!
THEY HAVE THE SAME FACE!
WRONG
THIRD-YEAR PLAYER FOR MORIYAMASHITA HIGH'S SOCCER TEAM, JIRO KIBUKAWA.
GIRI (SQUEEZE)
ギリ
THAT I ENDED UP HERE HOLDING THIS GUY'S HANDS?
WHAT IS WRONG WITH MY LIFE...
TCH.
OWW!
AHHHH!!
DON (SHOVE)
...IS HIM!!
HE WAS HIDING AROUND THE CORNER.
ZAWA (MURMUR)
GAAN (SHOCK)
SENPAI
JIRO-SENPAI
JIRO-SENPAI!
THE MAN WE HAVE HERE IS THE YOUNGER TWIN BROTHER OF THE TEAM CAPTAIN, KIBUKAWA-SAN.
HEY! JIRO!

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON, JIRO?
GIRI (GRIT)
BIG BROTHER ...
SFX: PASHA (CLICK), HARA (HUFF) HARA
YAWWWN... NO, I CAN'T EAT ANYMORE
MM?
THAT'S SO WEIRD!
WHY DOESN'T HE CALL HIM BY NAME?
GETTING GOOD AND TIRED BY NOW.
HE CALLED HIM BIG BROTHER? BUT THEY'RE TWINS...
IT'S LIKE A SOAP OPERA.
WAIT ...
...TWO KIBUKAWA-SANS? IS THAT A STUNT DOUBLE?
MMM?
PON (PONG)
ARE THEY ARGUING OVER SOMETHING?

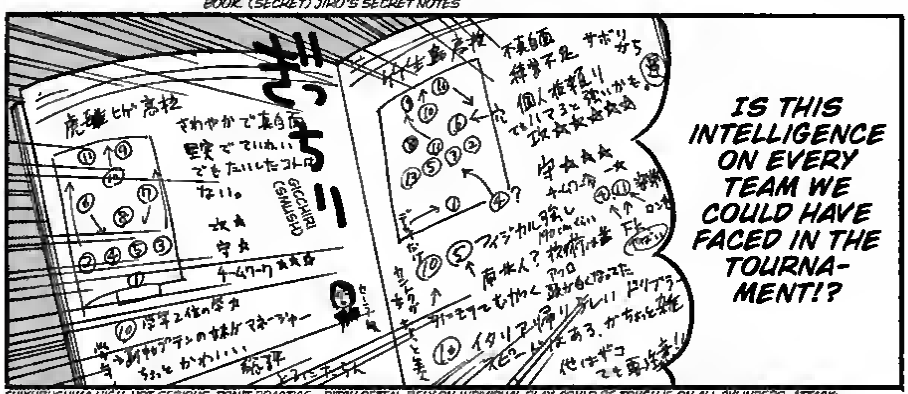

YOU MEAN YOU NEVER HEARD ABOUT THE "KIBUKAWA TWINS" (EMBARRASSING NICKNAME)? THEY WERE FAIRLY LEGENDARY.
UH, NO?
BROTHER?
THAT'S HIS BROTHER!
I GUESS HE'S BETTER NOW?
ARE YOU THAT DUMB?
ZURO (SLAB)
I ALWAYS HEARD THE YOUNGER BROTHER WAS THE BETTER PLAYER, BUT I GUESS HE GOT HURT LAST YEAR BECAUSE I HAVEN'T HEARD ABOUT HIM SINCE.
KIBUKAWA (3RD-YR) 5'11"
ELDER
YOUNGER
HMPH!
YOU SHALL NOT PASS!
HEY KID!
THEY'RE HUGE!
HATASHOU (2ND-YR) 5'3"
MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS
THEY BOTH PLAYED CENTER BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, WHERE THEY USED THEIR SIZE TO CONFOUND PEOPLE. MAN, THEY WERE OBNOXIOUS.
SHIRTS: MORIJI
STILL, TAKING ON BOTH OF THEM AT ONCE WILL BE A HANDFUL.
I'VE NEVER LOST TO THEM.
HEH
STILL, THEY'RE NO MATCH FOR ME!
AH, I SEE.


I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT AN IDIOT YOU ARE!!
SERI-OUSLY!
4
THIS JUST MEANS CHIKUBUSHIMA STANDS EVEN LESS OF A CHANCE OF WINNING. HA-HA-HA!
YOU UTTER DISGRACE!!
BA (SMACK)
ARE YOU INSANE!? WHAT WERE YOU THINKING!? APOLOGIZE TO THAT NICE YOUNG LASS!!
GA (GRAB)
OH, I GUESS HE'S ALL RIGHT AFTER ALL.
"LASS"?
BIG BROTH-ER!!
GOOOO (WHOOSH)
SO INSTEAD OF WORKING HARD TO RECOVER AND REHABILITATE, YOU SPEND TIME WITH THOSE DEGENERATES... AND START KIDNAPPING GIRLS!?
WHAT IS RUNNING THROUGH YOUR HEAD!?
AND YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN INJURED IF YOU HADN'T BEEN RIDING THAT MOTORCYCLE WITHOUT A LICENSE IN THE FIRST PLACE!!
MORON!

...NOW THAT'S WILD.
I'M JUST TRYING TO—
SHUT UP, YOU IDIOT!!
IT'S LIKE THE PICTURE-PERFECT FALL FROM GRACE!
INJURY
LAN-BREAK-ING
BRAVO, SIR.
SNAP SOME PHOTOS.
GOOD. I'LL ALLOW IT.
I'M TAKING VIDEO TOO.
PASHA (CLICK)
STOP THAT.
JAM
ON IT
BUT THESE GUYS TOTALLY PISS ME OFF!
WHAT THE HELL, MAN!?
WHAT THE HELL MAN!

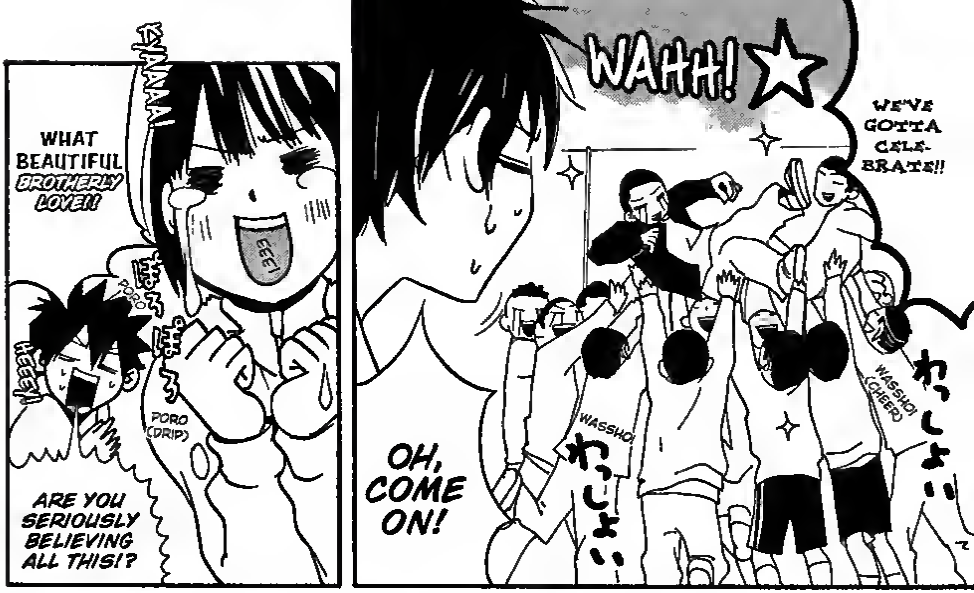
I MEAN ...
...THINK OF THAT SHRIMPY LITTLE #16!
DON'T CALL ME THAT!
YOU'RE JUST OVER-SIZED!
I CAN'T STAND TO WATCH THEM WIN, WITH THEIR LACK OF TEAMWORK AND STABILITY! THEY'RE SUSTAINED BY INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES ALONE!!
DAMN, HE'S RIGHT!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO REFUTE HIM?
"NO FATHER" THE SISTER SHRIEKED BUT HIS HANDS SEARCHED ALL THE MORE..
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
THINK OF THAT MYSTE-RIOUS #4 DEFENDER!
THEIR TEAM HAS UNBE-LIEVABLE POTENTIAL!!
BALD TURD
OH, SHUT UP.
THINK OF THE ELUSIVE GENIUS MATSURI HIKIYAMA, OR THE SORT-OF-DETESTABLE AZUCHI!
BUTSU
BUTSU
MUNDANITY IS A SIN
"STOP FATHER!"
TSK! PIPE DOWN!!
WE OUGHT TO BE IN TROUBLE RIGHT NOW!!

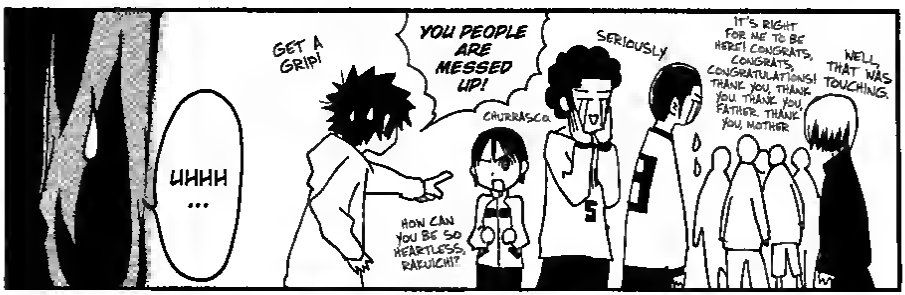
BOOK. (SECRET) JIRO'S SECRET NOTES



CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH, NOT SERIOUS, DON'T PRACTICE - DITCH OFTEN, RELY ON INDIVIDUAL PLAY, COULD BE TOUGH IF ON ALL CYLINDERS, ATTACK: (FIVE STARS), DEFENSE: (THREE STARS), TEAMWORK: (NEGATIVE ONE STAR) HOLE, BIG, NOT GOOD, FEMALE COACH KINDA HOT, (10) POPULAR WITH CHICKS, ANNOYING, HAIR WENT WHITE, (5) PHYSICALLY STRONG, ABOUT 6'3", SOUTH AMERICAN? AVERAGE SKILLS, AFRO, (4X11) OKAY, LONG HAIR, WATCH OUT ON FREE KICKS, (16) SUPPOSEDLY PLAYED IN ITALY, DRIBBLER, GOOD SPEED, BUT SLOPPY. THE REST SUCK, BUT STILL, WATCH OUT!!

SENPAI, DID YOU KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON?
?
I KNOW HOW HARD YOU GUYS WORK. I JUST TRIED TO DO MY PART...
JIRO...
JIRO-SENPAI
JIRO-SENPAI, I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALWAYS DITCHING SCHOOL.
.....
AFTER YOU STARTED CAUSING TROUBLE FOR THE TEAM AND THE SCHOOL, THE COACHES TRIED TO HAVE YOU REMOVED FROM THE TEAM. BUT CAPTAIN ALWAYS SAID, "HE'LL BE BACK! YOU CAN COUNT ON IT!"
!!
SKAA (FSHH)
??
WHAT THE...!?
LITTLE BRO!!
かぁ〜♥
♥♥
GASHI (GRAB)
BIG BRO!!
I'M SO SORRY!
GACK!
ぎゅっ
GYU (SQUEEZE)


KYAAAA!
WHAT BEAUTIFUL BROTHERLY LOVE!!
EEE!
HEEEH!
PORO (DRIP)
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY BELIEVING ALL THIS!?
WAHH!
WE'VE GOTTA CELEBRATE!!
WASSHO! (CHEER)
わっしょい
WASSHO!
わっしょい
OH, COME ON!


GET A GRIP!
YOU PEOPLE ARE MESSED UP!
SERIOUSLY
IT'S RIGHT FOR ME TO BE HERE! CONGRATS, CONGRATS, CONGRATULATIONS! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, FATHER, THANK YOU, MOTHER
WELL, THAT WAS TOUCHING.
UHHH ...
CHURRASCO
HOW CAN YOU BE SO HEARTLESS, RAFUICHI?

.....
HEY, BALDY-BOYS.
CAN WE GET THIS GAME STARTED SOON?
HI, I'M THE REFEREE
!

LET'S GET THIS GAME STARTED ALREADY!! GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER!
YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
MAKE IT SNAPPY!
HEE HEE! OH, RAKUICHI
I APOLOGIZE FOR THIS. I'D BE HAPPY JUST TO SETTLE THIS ON THE FIEL—
I'M SORRY
ABSO-LUTELY NOT.
KI (GLARE)
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
AZU. CHI?
HUH?

WE'RE IN TROUBLE, COACH
I'M IN TROUBLE, BUB
IF ONLY I'D KICKED HIM OUT...
AFTER ALL, YOUR BROTHER IS STILL A MEMBER OF THE TEAM.
I THINK YOUR COACH OVER THERE REALIZES THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION.
YOU THINK YOU CAN KIDNAP A PERSON AND EXPECT THINGS TO CONTINUE WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A PEEP FROM US?
...I THINK FOLLOWING THE RULEBOOK TO THE LETTER IS ONLY PROPER. NOT ONLY WILL YOU BE CERTAINLY DISQUALIFIED FOR THIS GAME, BUT I'D IMAGINE A DISMANTLING OF THE TEAM COULD BE IN THE CARDS.
..I'M IN A TOWERING MOOD
SORRY, PAL
FUN CHMPHD
PERSONALLY, I'M NOT A PROPONENT OF JOINT LIABILITY, BUT GIVEN THE GRAVITY OF THIS PARTICULAR SITUATION...
I'M SORRY!
AHH! COACH SNAPPED!
YOU FREAKIN' IDIOT!
DAMMIT! I TOLD YOU YOU WERE AN IDIOT!
POKAAN CDUHHD
ARE HIS PANTIES IN A BUNCH?
LOVE!

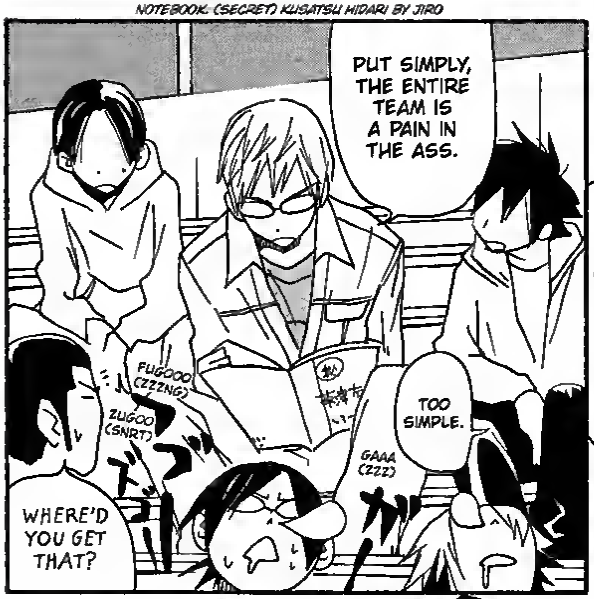
NOW WE CAN BEAT THEM WITHOUT HAVING TO PLAY!!
I THINK.
OH MARVELOUS!!
OH!
BOSO (WHISPER)
BOSO
YOU REALIZE THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM HAVE GONE WITHOUT SLEEP BECAUSE OF THIS? AND YOU THINK WE CAN STILL BEAT MORI-SHITA!?
I DUNNO, AZUCHI. THAT MIGHT BE A LITTLE HARSH AT THIS POINT.
DON'T BE STUPID!
SFX. FUN (SNORT)
BOO!
HAH!
BEGONE FROM THIS HALLOWED GROUND!!
STUPID!
PTOO!
PTOO!
KE KE KE!
TAKE THAT, CRIMINALS!
YAH!
CHUREASCO!
GA (WHACK)
LET'S PLAY...
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT!!?
NICE ONE, ANTON.
DEAD.
SFX. GAKURI (FLOMP)
...CHIKUBUSHIMA REACHES THE FINALS THROUGH DISQUALIFICATION OF THE OPPONENT!!!
SO ANYWAY...
...TO SUM IT UP...
WE WON!
HELL YEAH!
HOORAY!
AND WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO DESERVE IT!
CHIKUBUSHIMA
CHEERS!!
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
THIS EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US SOMETHING INCREDIBLY VALUABLE.. I THINK...! HOPE!!
DON'T CRY, JIRO.
BOO-HOO
SNIFFAL

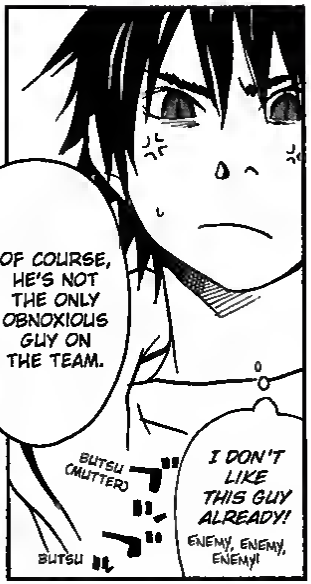
WE'RE GOLD-EN!
LUCK IS A PART OF SKILL.
THE ENDS JUSTIFY THE MEANS
...ARE WE SERIOUSLY GOING TO THE FINAL?
ZZZ
RAAAH!
SO...
KYAAA!
HARD TO BELIEVE, ISN'T IT? JUST WIN ONE MORE GAME, AND WE'RE IN THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT!
THERE THEY ARE...
ZA (ZSHH)
WELL... IT'S OBVIOUSLY GOING TO BE KUSATSU HIDARI
AND WHOEVER WINS THIS MATCH UP NEXT IS GOING TO BE OUR OPPONENT ...
HEH HEH HEH

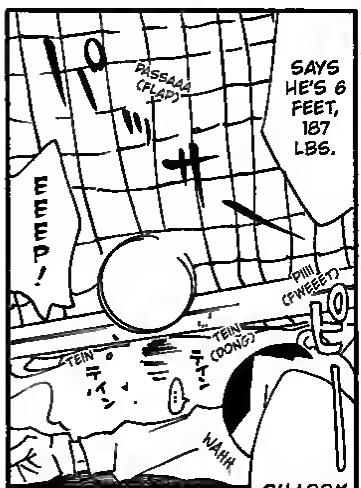
HAH! TIME TO SEE HOW MUCH THOSE WIMPS HAVE GROWN SINCE THAT FRIENDLY MATCH WE HAD!
THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE SAYING...
MWA HA HA HA
BIWAKO STARTING TO GET SLEEPY.
THE STARTING LINEUP OF KUSATSU HIDARI...
KUSATSU HIDARI
7
KORO (ROLL) NO NO KORO
AZU-CHI...
WHY DOES HE HAVE TO SIT NEXT TO ME?
THE CORE OF THEIR TEAM IS ESSENTIALLY STILL INTACT. I'LL BE HONEST: THEY'RE TOUGH.
SECOND-BEST TEAM IN THE NATION LAST YEAR...
"SU" (SHH)
SEVEN OF THEM!
I WONDER HOW MANY PLAYERS ARE STILL ON THE TEAM NOW?

ESPECIALLY THAT #10, THEIR ACE, HATASHOU. HE WAS EVEN CALLED UPON TO JOIN THE NATIONAL YOUTH TEAM.
PIIII (FWEET)
HE'LL BE THE BIGGEST PAIN IN THE ASS.
KUSATSUHIDARI
10
HE ALWAYS STICKS AROUND THE MIDDLE OF THE FIELD AND IS THE STARTING POINT FOR ANY ATTACK...
...AND HE'S ALSO TALENTED AT NIPPING ANY ENEMY STRIKES IN THE BUD. HE CONTROLS THE PACE OF THE GAME.
I GUESS HIS PLAY STYLE COULD BE CONSIDERED SIMILAR TO MATSURI-SENPAI'S.
SENPAI MIGHT HAVE BETTER INNATE SENSE, BUT HATASHOU'S PLAY IS MUCH MORE CONSISTENT.
HYO! (ZWIP)
HE PERFORMS AT A HIGH LEVEL IN ALL FACETS OF THE GAME.

AND HE'S ALSO GOT...
GASA (RUSTLE)
... SHOOTING POWER.
TWO MINUTES INTO THE GAME
HE'S GOT A SURPRISING AMOUNT OF STAMINA, AND HE'LL BURST THROUGH A HOLE IF HE SEES ONE...
BO (BOOT)
ZA (ZSHU)
OH YEAH!
I SCORED FIRST!
YOU OWE ME DINNER!
DAYUN!
KUDATTOUHDAR!
10
HE'S BEEN FIELDING OFFERS FROM PRO TEAMS ALREADY.
HE'S ALSO POPULAR WITH GIRLS.
NOT THAT I CARE
UKI (GIDDY)
UKI
I LOVE YOU!
KYAAA! KYAAA! KYAAA!
GACK!
KYAAAA! ♥ HATASHOU-KUUUN! ♥♥
FLAG. HATASHOU
INAE


PUT SIMPLY, THE ENTIRE TEAM IS A PAIN IN THE ASS.
FUGOOO (ZZZNG)
ZUGOO (SNRT)
TOO SIMPLE.
GAAA (ZZZ)
WHERE'D YOU GET THAT?


OF COURSE, HE'S NOT THE ONLY OBNOXIOUS GUY ON THE TEAM.
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
I DON'T LIKE THIS GUY ALREADY!
ENEMY, ENEMY, ENEMY!


SAYS HE'S 6 FEET, 187 LBS.
PASSAA (FLAP)
EEEP!
PIIII (PWEEE?)
TEIN (DONG)
TEIN
NAHH
OH LOOK, ANOTHER GOAL.
HE'S FERO-CIOUS.

#9 OVER THERE DOESN'T HAVE TECHNIQUE, BUT HE GOES ALL OUT, ALL GAME. GOOD LUCK, DEFENSE.
DOGA (WHAM)
MUKAIDOHARA
9
WHOA! IS HE ACTUALLY IN HIGH SCHOOL?
OH

HE JUST PASSED THREE GUYS!
HEH
HEH
HEH
SHIDAR!
SEE THAT, NAGA-HAMA?
BA (WHOOSH)
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GOOD AT BURSTING IN OFF THE SIDE AS WELL.
ACCORDING TO THESE NOTES, THE ANNOYING DUDE DOES THAT.
OH, THEY SCORED.
ALSO, THEY'VE ALLOWED ZERO GOALS IN THE TOURNAMENT, SO THEIR DEFENSE IS PRETTY GOOD AS WELL.
DOGA (WONK)
BASSAAA (WHOOSH)
BO (BOOT)
HAHN!
EEK!
AUGH!
NO!
THEY SCORED.
PASA (FWAP)
PASA
PASA
PASA
SCORE
SCORE
PASA
THEY SCORED.
AND THEY'VE WON ALL THEIR GAMES AT LEAST 5-0!
PIII (FWEEET)
OHO
THIS IS BRUTAL.
DAAAH!
OH MAN
GUU (SNORE)
GAA (ZZZ)
NOOO
GOO (SNORE)
GOGA

SFX. GUGAA GOBEE NGAA NGOO GAA (SNORING)

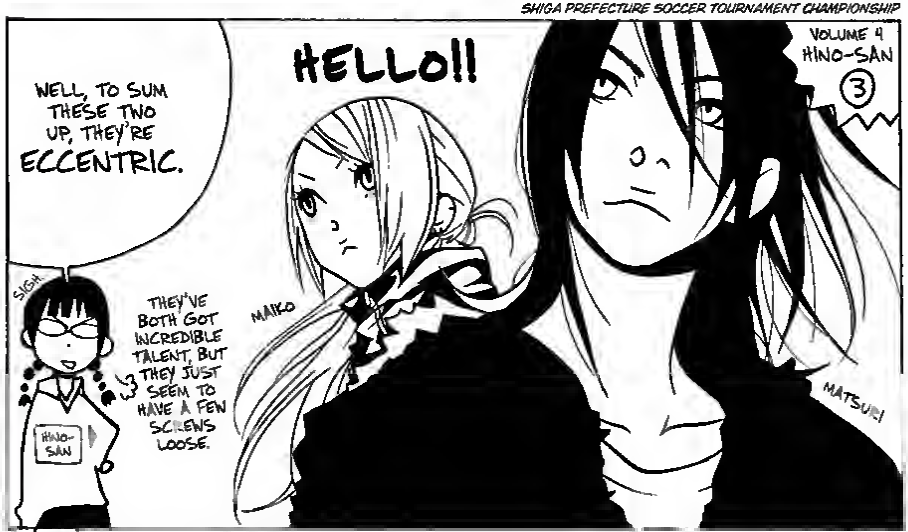
SHIRT: KUSATSU HIDARI

#19
BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL

SIGNS: TOWA HEAVY INDUSTRIES, JEANS SHOP CHINOPAN, CHEMICAL-WASHED IN STOCK
THE DAY OF THE BIG GAME.
KIRA (SPARKLE)
KIRA
SHE'S CUTE
チノパン
PAPPAA (HONK)
UP NEXT, THE FINAL.
URORORO (VVRRRM)
KIKII (SCREECH)
UKII (SCREE)
SIGNS: PET SHOP, SEIYANEN, CIGARETTES, KEEP OUR CITY CLEAN
ペットショップ
せやねん
AH!
PON (BOING)
HAHA
IT'S MATSURI.
SFX. PAA (BEEP) PAA PO PAA PA PA POOO
OH.
PON
SFX. GAYA (MLIRMLIR) GAYA

!!?
PAPAPAA
GOO (VIBRO)
MATSURI!!!
KIKIKI!!
KYAAA!
HEY!
BA (LEAP)
WATCH OUT, KID...!
BURORORO
ゴーロロ
!?
OH!

SIGN: FALL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS COMPETITION
SHIGA PREFECTURE SOCCER TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP



HEY! SHUT UP OVER THERE, YOUKA-ICHI!!
SHU
BASHI (SMACK)
SHU (SWISH)
BISHI (WHAM)
GA (YANK)
THE CROWS! THE CROWS!!
I'M TOTALLY CURSED!!
THAT REALLY HURTS!
GA
OW!
OW!
NOOOOOO!!

DWAH!?
BASSAA (FLAP)
KAA
KAA (HMMM)
KAA
KAA
NEW CHORO
NYA
NYA

I DON'T KNOW WHY...
TARAA (DRIP)
YOU OKAY?
HAA
HAA (HUFF)

...A REALLY BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
...BUT I'M GETTING ...
DOOON (BOOOM)
OH, SHUT UP.
YEAH, I GET THE SAME FEELING

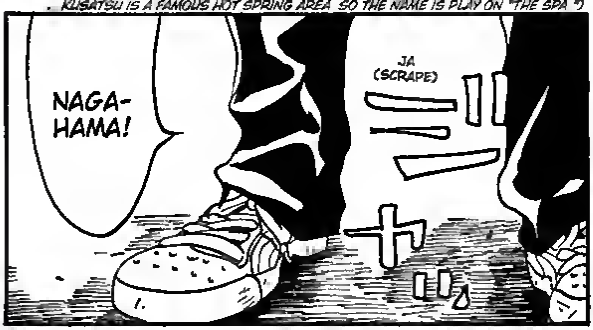
WHAT?
TON (TMP)
PITA (STOP)
DODODON!
JIII (STARE)
KIND OF WEIRD.
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU WERE AWAY IN ITALY FOR SO LONG... THEN YOU CAME BACK ALL OF A SUDDEN, STARTED AT OUR SCHOOL...
...JOINED THE SOCCER TEAM...
...AND NOW WE'RE IN THE FINAL.

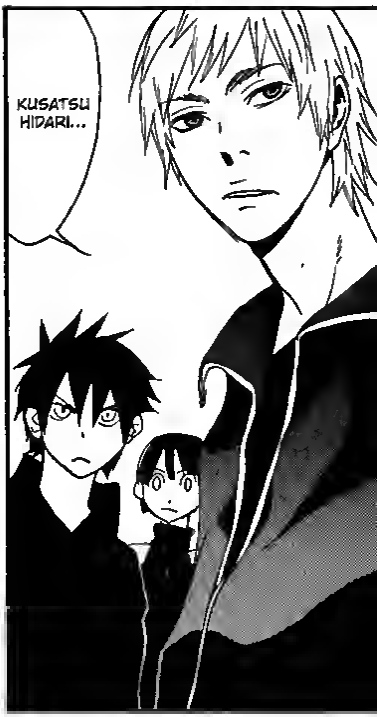
THANKS FOR PLAYING SOCCER AGAIN.
THANKS, RAKUICHI.
HEH.
NOPE, JUST TALENT.
IT'S LIKE A DREAM.
AH.
JUST HEAR ME OUT!
!
HMM?
IHAE-CHAN, I'VE GOT SOME-THING TO SA-...

SIGN. THESPA (J-LEAGUE SOCCER TEAM FROM KUSATSU IN GANMA PREFECTURE ..

SHIRTS. KUSATSU HIDARI

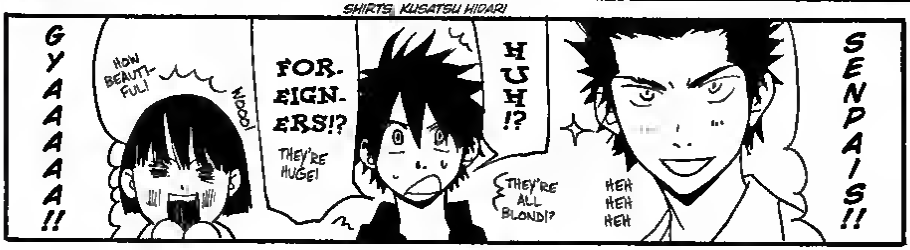
. KUSATSU IS A FAMOUS HOT SPRING AREA. SO THE NAME IS PLAY ON "THE SPA".





FINALLY, MY YEARS OF RESENTMENT WILL BE PAID BACK IN—
ANYWAY, WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, MAN?
HEH HEH HEH
!!
HEY, HE GOT A HAIRCUT!
AT LONG, LONG LAST, WE MEET AGAIN!
WHAT A DORK
NOT HIM AGAIN...
IT'S IBUKI !!
YOU GUYS ARE DOING THAT ON PUR-POSE!
WHAT? KA-WARA-BUKI?
IT'S REALLY CRUEL OF YOU!
OH, COME ON! IT'S YABUKI-KUN! WHY CAN'T YOU REMEMBER THAT ALREADY?
HA-HA-HAAA! BUT IBUKI TELL THE TROOOOTH!
HAH!
YOU LET OTHERS DO THE WORK
ACK!
BOSO (MUTTER)
GAYA (CHATTER)
EEK!
POO TO YOU!
WE'VE GOT OUR VERY TOP LINEUP PLAYING TODAY!!
HAH! GET YOUR LAUGHS IN WHILE YOU STILL CAN!
GUSU (SNIFF)

SHIRTS, KUSATSU HIDARI



SO...
NO, WAIT, THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE...
BUT THEY DON'T LOOK ALIKE AT ALL!!
POYAAN
NUUUN
FINE?
WHY DON'T WE HAVE THE OTHER BROTHERS?
DARU
THIS IS NUTS...
YES. I YOUNGEST.
YOU'RE QUINTUP-LETS!!?
...ARE THEY GOOD?
AHH. SO...
YES.
I THINK FOR SURE THEY BACK IN BRAZIL, BUT NOW...

UNLIKE ME, MY BROTHERS ALL VERY SKILL PLAYERS.
ANTONIO JAMES MIKI TAGA SECOND: FW 6'2", 187 LBS
ANTONIO CARMEN MAKI TAGA THIRD: MF 6'1", 170 LBS
ANTONIO JERRY FUJIO TAGA ELDEST: DF 6'2", 187 LBS
YOUNGEST
ANTONIO CARLOS TOSHIKI TAGA 6', 176 LBS
THEY SO GOOD, EVEN PRO TEAMS TRY RECRUIT THEM.
ANTONIO MAGGIE SHIRO TAGA 6'3", 187 LBS
I KNEW IT! WAS THIS THE BAD FEELING I WAS GETTING!?
IT MUST BE!
.....
.....
...I THINK WE MIGHT BE SCREWED.
BOSO (MUTTER)
ZUUN. GYOOMO
KUSATSU WAS ALREADY TOUGH ENOUGH. NOW THEY ADD FOUR POWERFUL PLAYERS JUST BEFORE THE GAME?
TCH.
UGH.
DON'T BE A MORON!
GOOD-BYE MY BITTER-SWEET YOUTH
IT'S ALL OVER
BLUBBER, BLUBBER!

...YOU CRUSH 'EM, AND THAT'S THAT!!
THAT DOESN'T MATTER AT ALL.
IF THERE'S AN ENEMY IN YOUR WAY...
HA HA HA!
NO, YOU DON'T GET IT!
RAKU-ICHI...
...I LIKE YOUR MENTALITY.
AS USUAL ...
!
I EXPECT BIG THINGS FROM YOU, NAGAHAMA.

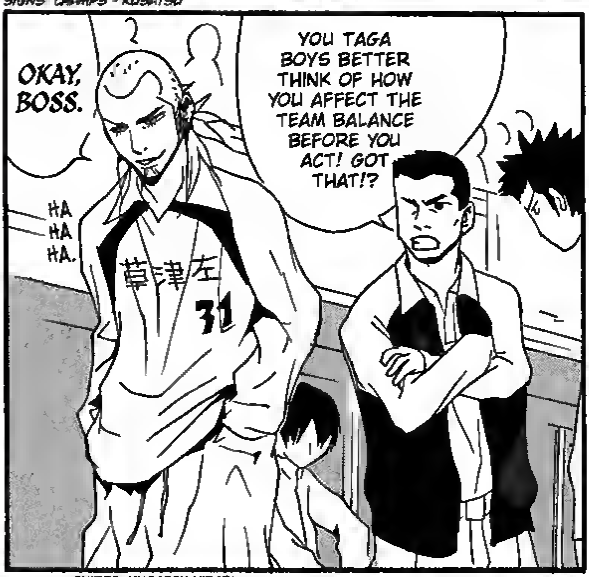
IF HE TAKES THE SIDE, I'LL MOVE UP TO FORWARD, AND WE COULD MOVE ANTON BACK TO THE DEFENSIVE LINE...
SETA PLAYS CONSERVATIVE, AND WE LEAVE THE MIDDLE TO MAIBARA AND MATSURI-SEN—
WAIT.
HOW ABOUT THAT? AZUCHI'S TOTALLY IN LOVE WITH ME...
HEH HEH HEH.
THE BEST WAY TO HANDLE NAGAHAMA: FLATTER HIM!
YESSIR!!
ON THE DOUBLE!!
FIRST-YEARS! CHECK THE BATHROOMS, THE LOCKER ROOM, AND ANY CONVENIENCE STORES IN THE AREA!!
BISHI (JAB)
STUPID-ASS MA-TSURI!
WAS THIS THE BAD FEEL-ING!?
OH, FAULT UP.
SAME AS ALWAYS...
WAHHH!
BOSORI (MUTTER)
IS MATSURI-SENPAI HERE TODAY?
!?
AAAH!

BOOK. CREAM LEMON (ONE OF THE EARLIEST EROTIC ANIME SERIES, PRODUCED IN 1984), SIGN. FIGHT HARD

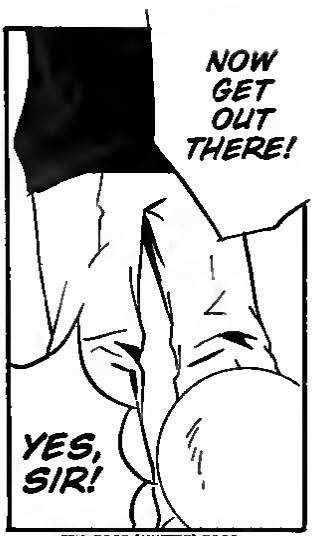
M-A-T-S-U-R-I H-I-K-I-Y-A-M-A!
THE PRINCIPAL'S CREEPING ME OUT.
FUNUU (FUME)
FUNUU
TODAY IS THE CLIMAX OF THE ENTIRE MATTER!
GRR...
STUPID MATSURI! STUPID, STUPID MATSURI-
MAIBARA-SAAAN!
EEK! AZUCHI-SENPAI!
We 桃山
眼鏡組合
SIGNS: FIGHT HARD CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH PTA, WE HEART TOUZAN, GLASSES ALLIANCE
FLOUNDERING CLOWN...
BAH.
GODDAMN!!
KYAAA! KYAAA!
THIS WILL SPELL DOOM FOR MY GLORIOUS REVENGE!!
KUU (GRRR)
THAT INCORRIGIBLE BRAT!
FUUU (SIGH)
WELL...
...WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE!

...HEY, LISTEN UP!!
WAI (CHATTER)
ワイ
WAI ワイ
GAYA ガヤ (MURMUR)
ガヤ
GAYA
WHAT DO WE DO AT FW?
SO IF AZUCHI STAYS BACK...
WE JUST HAVE TO ASSUME MATSURI IS DEAD AND CUT HIM OUT OF THE PICTURE. THAT MEANS THE REST OF YOU...
FIGHT! FIGHT! KUSATSU HIDARI!
DAMN SLACKS
IT'S ALL OVER.

SIGNS CHAMPS - KUSATSU



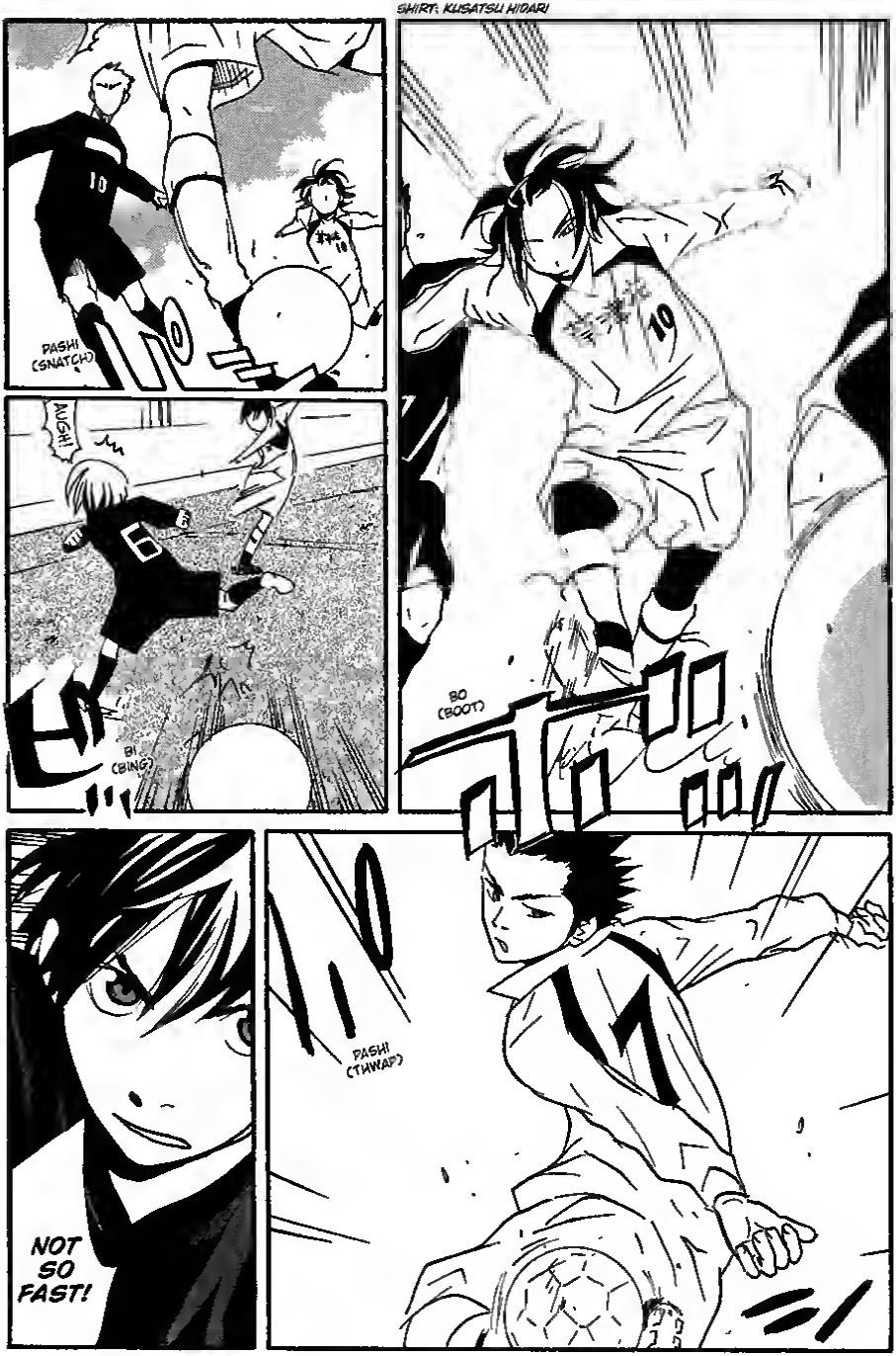
SHIRTS KUSATSU HIDARI



SFX BOSO (MUTTER) BOSO

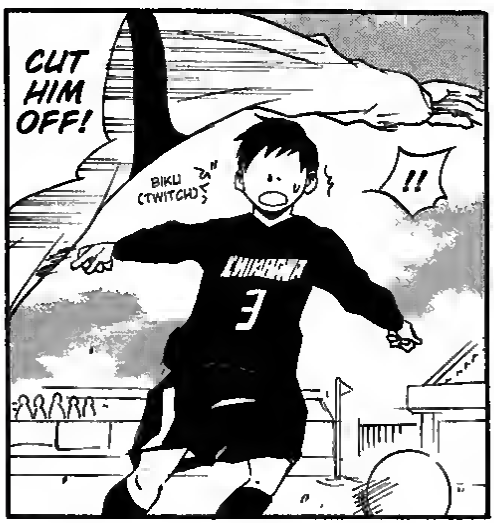
I-I AGREE, SHOU-CHAN.
IT'S TOO BAD. WE COULD WIN THIS GAME EASY WITHOUT THOSE ASSHOLES. RIGHT, OH-CHAN?
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE STUDENTS, DAMMIT.
O-OH WELL.
O-OUR SCHOOL TENDS TO F-FIRE ITS COACHES IF THEY FAIL.
YEAH!!
HERE WE GO!
LET'S DO IT!
GYU. (SQUEEZE)
OKAY.

FINALLY ...
DOKI (BADUM)
GOOD LUCK, GUYS!
...THE FALL HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS COMPETITION, SHIGA PREFECTURE SOCCER TOURNAMENT...
YAWN
...CHAMPIONSHIP GAME...
PII (PWEEE)
...HAS BEGUN.
CHIKURISHIMA


PASHI (SNATCH)
AUGH!
BI (BING)
BO (BOOT)
NOT SO FAST!
PASHI (THWAP)

!?
(ZIP)
WAAAH!
WAAAH!
AH!
UH-OH.
HE PASSED IT RIGHT AWAY!?
HATA-SHOU!!
SUZAA (SWISH)

* MAIBARA DETESTS HARD, PHYSICAL PLAY.



SHIRT: WASABURO (HIS HAIR IS IDENTICAL TO THAT OF WASABURO OHNO, ONE-TIME MAYOR OF TOYOTOMI CITY IN SHIGA PREFECTURE—THE REGION IN WHICH SASAMEKE TAKES PLACE.

AH!
TCH!
BACHI (DING)
HEY, THIS WAY!
RUN AND GET THAT, YOUKA-ICHI!!
NOT THAT WAY!
AHH...
SORRY, YOU.
SU (ZIP)
!?
ZOKU (SHIVER)
NOO!
OKAY.
草津左
PASHI (SNIK)

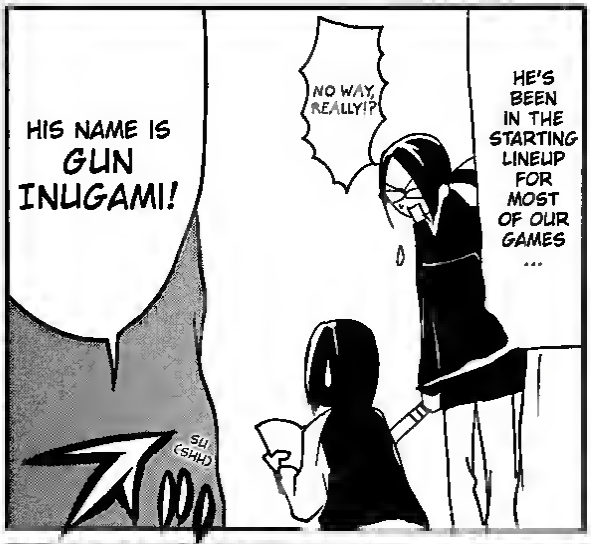
HA-HA-HA! JAPAN HAVE MUCH TO LEARN ABOUT FUTEBOL!
YACK!
SORRIER, SORRIEST!
AND HIS LEGS ARE SO MUCH LONGER!!
33
BI (OINK)
IT'S NOT A FAIR FIGHT!
ANTONIO'S BROTHER (WELL, ONE OF THEM) !!
I THINK HE'S MY FAVORITE OF THE GROUP! ☆
AH!
BACHIN (WHACK)
33
OW!
TON (TONK)
OUCH
ZURU (TRIP)
AH, I FELL!

!!
THIS WAY!
SA (ZIP)
AH, THIS WAY!
STOP HIM!
MM.
OH!
THEY'VE OPENED A WAY!?
GASHI (TENSE)
AH!

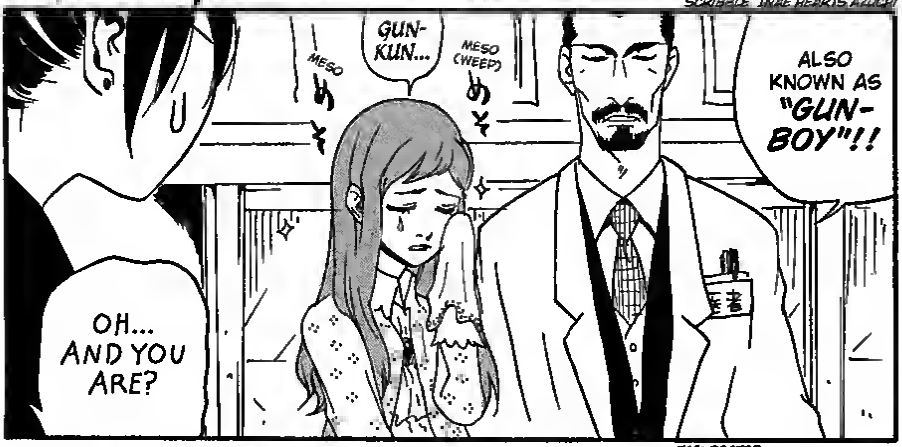
*AN EVASION TECHNIQUE MADE FAMOUS BY JOHAN CRUYFF. A PLAYER MOVES AS IF TO KICK THE BALL AWAY, BUT INSTEAD DRAGS THE BALL BEHIND HIS OR HER STANDING LEG AND TURNS TO CONTINUE DRIBBLING WITH THE BALL.

...WE FOLLOWED THE TRAIL BLAZED BY #3...
RATHER THAN FOLLOWING THE BALL...
ZUZA (SLIDE)
MAMA!
WAIT-ING FOR A MIR-ACLE.
AGH!
DA (DASH)
...GAZING UPON THE BOUND-LESS LUCK THAT FELL UPON HIS PATH.
THAT INSTANT ...
KYAA!
BOBO (BOOP)
YEOW!
GA (WHACK)
GWAH!

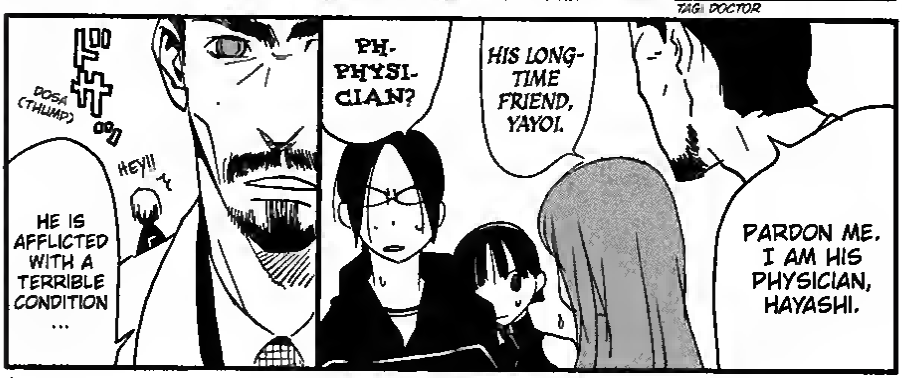
...WAS BORN!!
PASA (FWAP)
1-0
...A LEGEND (OF A SORT) ...
PIIII (FWEEET)
MEAN-WHILE...
...EVERY GUY ON THE TEAM WAS WRACKED BY THE SAME QUESTION!!
WHO IS THAT!!?
WAA (RAHH)

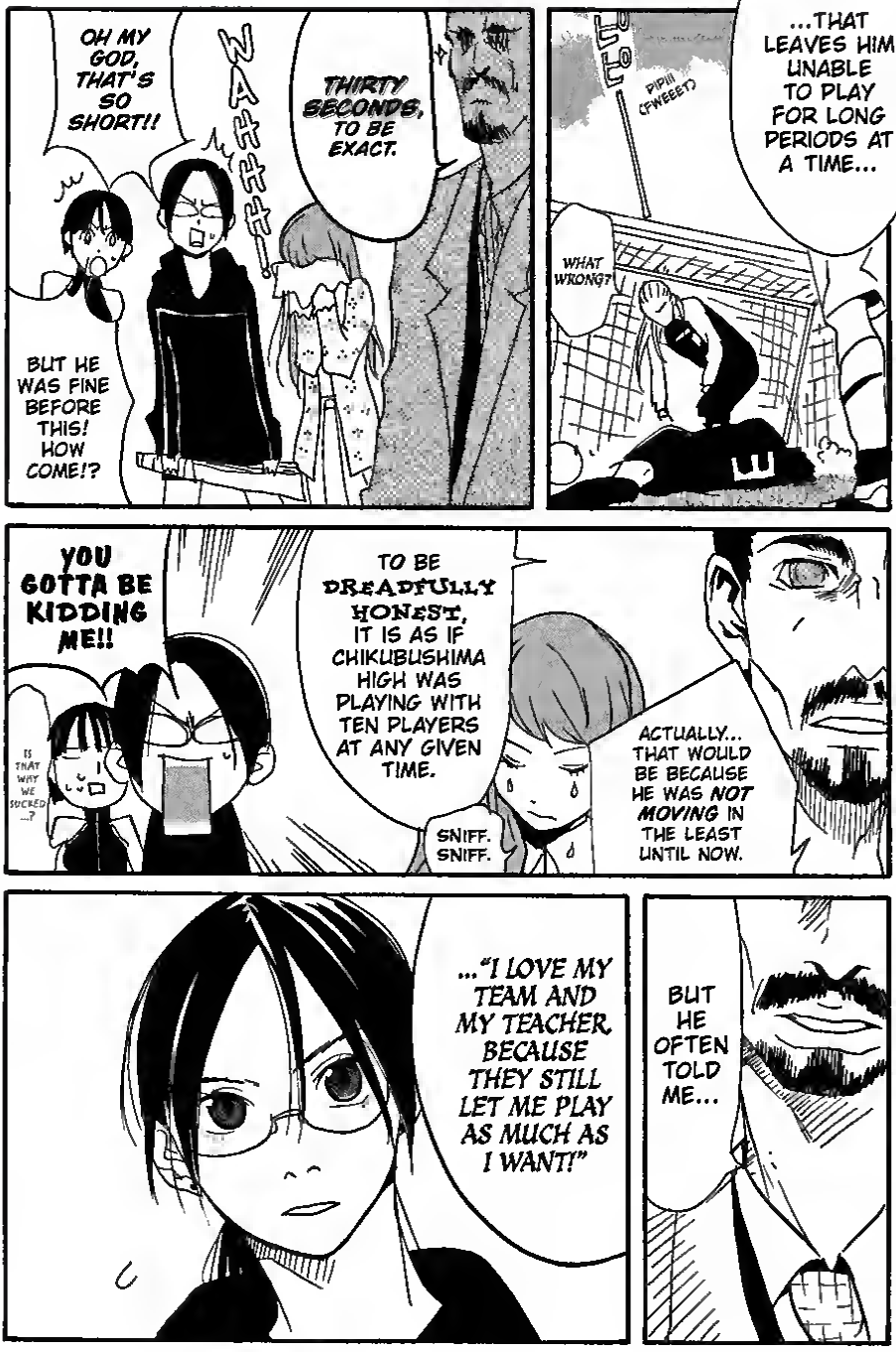


SCRIBBLE: INAE HEARTS AZUCHI

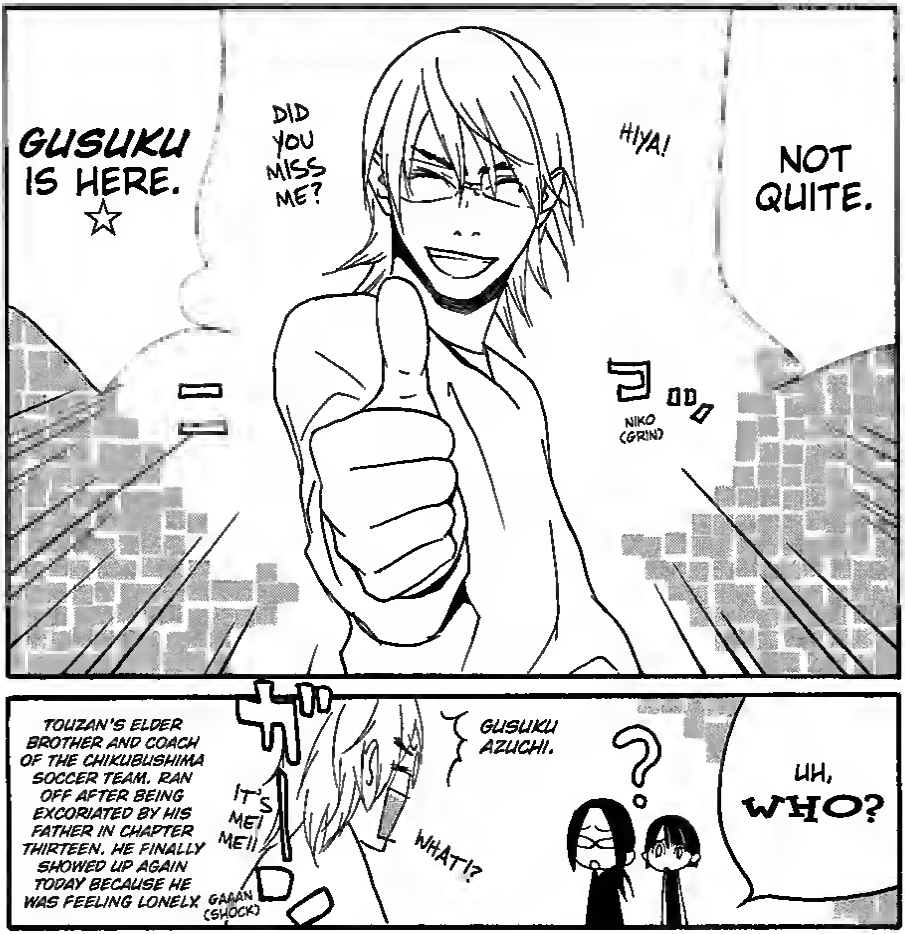


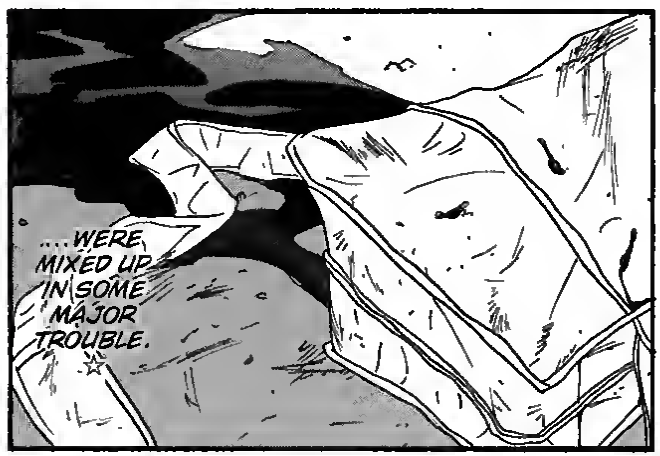
TAG: DOCTOR




OH MY GOD, THAT'S SO SHORT!!
WAHHH!
THIRTY SECONDS, TO BE EXACT.
BUT HE WAS FINE BEFORE THIS! HOW COME!?
PIPIII (PWEEE!)
WHAT WRONG?
...THAT LEAVES HIM UNABLE TO PLAY FOR LONG PERIODS AT A TIME...
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!!
IS THAT WHY WE SUCKED...?
TO BE DREADFULLY HONEST, IT IS AS IF CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH WAS PLAYING WITH TEN PLAYERS AT ANY GIVEN TIME.
SNIFF. SNIFF.
ACTUALLY... THAT WOULD BE BECAUSE HE WAS NOT MOVING IN THE LEAST UNTIL NOW.
...“I LOVE MY TEAM AND MY TEACHER BECAUSE THEY STILL LET ME PLAY AS MUCH AS I WANT!”
BUT HE OFTEN TOLD ME...

NO IDEA WHO THAT KID WAS...
HEE HEE HEE!
...BUT THAT'S ONE LUCKY GOAL FOR US!
☆
PAR-DON?
WHAT'S HER DEAL?
SHE IS SUCH AN AWFUL COACH ...
PIIPOO (WEEOO)
ピーポー
ピーポー
PIIPOO
BEST OF LUCK IN YOUR MATCH.
...THANKS, DOC!
NOW, WE'LL JUST PLUG MATSURI INTO HIS SPOT, AND...
OOOH! YES!
HEE!
HEE HEE HEE
BUT MATSURI-SENPAI ISN'T HERE YET.
NOOOOOO!!
WELL, HERE I AM.
SU (SSK)
HUH?
KURU (SPIN)
MATSURI!?
SENPAI?


GUSUKU IS HERE.
DID YOU MISS ME?
HIYA!
NOT QUITE.
NIKO (GRIN)
TOUZAN'S ELDER BROTHER AND COACH OF THE CHIKUBUSHIMA SOCCER TEAM. RAN OFF AFTER BEING EXCORIATED BY HIS FATHER IN CHAPTER THIRTEEN. HE FINALLY SHOWED UP AGAIN TODAY BECAUSE HE WAS FEELING LONELY.
IT'S ME! ME!!
GASAN (SHOCK)
WHAT!?
GUSUKU AZUCHI.
UH, WHO?



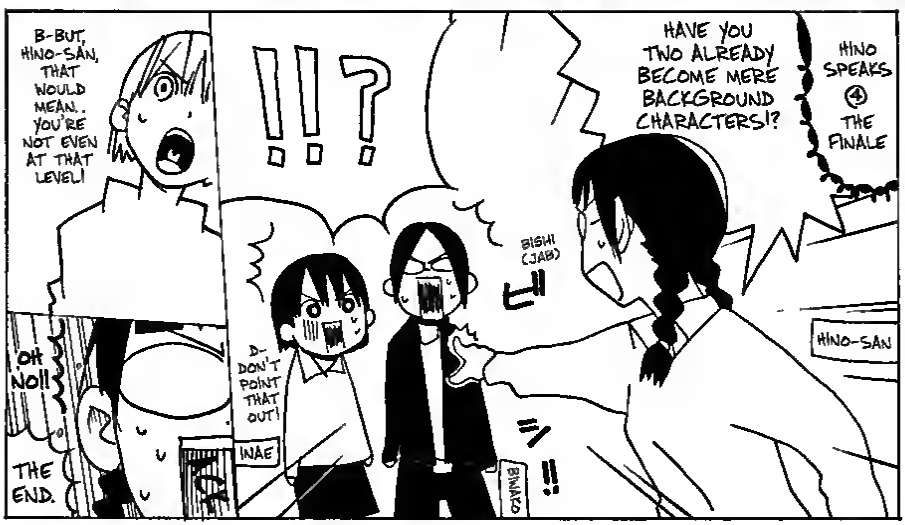
MEANWHILE, MATSURI AND MAIKO...

8days
market
#20
THESE ARE THE DAYS
OF OUR LIVES

THE STORY THUS FAR:

CHIKUBUSHIMA TAKES THE LEAD WITH A SHOCKING, UNPREDICTABLE GOAL (THREE MINUTES INTO THE GAME) BY AMBUSH TROOPER INUGAMI.

GUN INUGAMI, A TEAMMATE AND FRIEND WHO USED UP A LIFETIME'S WORTH OF LUCK IN ONE MAGICAL, THIRTY-SECOND SPAN... WE MAY FORGET HIM AFTER A WHILE, BUT WE SHALL DO OUR BEST TO REMEMBER FOR AS LONG AS WE LIVE...



SHIRT: KUSATSU HIDARI

COLOR ME DISAP-POINTED.
WHA ...!?
I GUESS I'M A BIT SURPRISED THAT YOU'D RESORT TO SUCH A COWARDLY TACTIC AS TAUNTING, NAGAHAMA-KUN.
SHIRT, KUSATSU HIDARI
SO GULLIBLE ...
草津左
10
HE'S A LOT LIKE IBUKI, ACTUALLY.
QUIT FALLING FOR IT, YOU CLOWN!
GARURU GRRR
SH-SHUT UP! WHY SHOULD I CARE WHAT YOU SAY? YOU'RE JUST, YOU'RE JUST...
(ZSHH)
PIIII (FWEEET)
BAAAH!

BA (ZWIP)
10
8
!!
NAGA-HAMA.
I GOT JUST ONE MESSAGE FOR YOU...
HUH?
BA
GRAHH!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOUKA-ICHI!?
SIGN: KUSATSU HIDARI
YOU CAN'T BEAT ME ANY-MORE!!
!
16
DA (DASH)

WOW! THERE'S ONE OF HATASHOU'S DRIVING PASSES!
SHIFA (POW)
RAAAHH!
BO (BOOT)
...IT'S GOING TO SLICE FOU—
BUT DON'T WORRY ...
STUPID YOUKA-ICHI!
SUCH A SHARP PASS!
LOOK, RIGHT DOWN THE LINE!
NWAAH !!!
PASHI (WHACK)

DAMN!!
RAH!
GHIRARI (WEEK)
ZUDO (THUD)
HE'S FAST !!
DO
DO
DO
DO
HOW DID #7 CATCH UP TO THAT BALL!?
HE'S FAST.
SIGN KUSATSU HIDARI
IBUKI
KYAAA!
HE'S LIKE RAKUICHI!
SIGN SHOUJI HATASHOU
WHUH !?
WAAA
WAAA
!!
ZUZA (SKIDE)
PITA (STOP)
BUT...
HE'S STILL GOT THAT INNATE SPEED AND ATHLETICISM!!

NAGAHAMA!!
...I AIN'T THE SAME GUY I USED TO BE!!
YEAH, BUT WHO THE HELL ARE YOU!!?
DA DASH!
DA
...FIVE LONG YEARS AGO...
HEY! YOU LISTEN-ING?
IT WAS A HOT SUMMER DAY...
YEAH, THE ONE WHO SCORED TWENTY GOALS IN ONE GAME?
HEY, DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THAT REALLY GOOD GUY IN FIFTH GRADE?
WITH A WEIRD NAME.
GATHER 'ROUND! WE'LL PLAY A MINI-GAME.
STAFF
IRONMAN
BIWAKO TETSUJIN
REESU MOU IMAHA
YATTE NAIYEDO
1996
MOKOMICHI IBUKI (FIFTH GRADE)
THE VERY FIRST PRACTICE SESSION AFTER I WAS CHOSEN FOR THE PREFECTURAL TEAM.
THAT WAS WHEN...
MIIN (BZZZ)
MIIN
MIIN
HA-HA! DON'T BE SO TENSE, MOKOMICHI!
O-OKAY.

SHIRT: LAKE BIWA RACE (NO LONGER ACTIVE), SFX: DOKI (BADUMP DOKI)

THE BIG GUY.
...I FIRST MET YOU.
HEY
GOOD TO SEE YA AGAIN!
RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA (FIFTH GRADE)
YEAH ...
HE'S MY AGE? WOW...
JII (STARE)
WHOA...
...I THINK IT'S RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA.
SHRIMP.
DON'T SQUINT AT ME.
GAAN (SHOCK)
!?
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU STARING AT?
.....
HEY...
RAKUICHI NAGAHAMA ...
HOW DARE YOU!? THAT'S SO RUDE!
RAKUICHI IS WAY WEIRDER!!
THEY'RE BOTH WEIRD NAMES ...
TOUZAN AZUCHI (SIXTH GRADE)
5'5"
HUH? MOKOMICHI? THAT'S ONE WEIRD NAME.
I-I'M NOT A SHRIMP! I'M MOKO-MICHI!!
...IS A GENETIC THING!
AND MY SQUINTING
WHAT!? SHUT UP!

IF YOU ASKED ME...
...GAVE HIM IMPOSSIBLE SPEED AND INCREDIBLE TECHNIQUE!!
← 4'7"
HE HAD TERRIBLE PEOPLE SKILLS, BUT HIS GOD-GIVEN BODY, ALL 5'5" OF IT...
...ON A TEAM OF KIDS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!!
...IT WAS LIKE HAVING A NATIONAL-LEVEL HIGH SCHOOLER ...
BA (ZIP)
草:考左
YEAH, THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I WANTED TO BE LIKE YOU!
BUT THEN I FIGURED IT OUT!
WAAAH!
WHY ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THIS DURING THE GAME?
YEAH! AND ALL THAT FAWNING AND ATTENTION FROM THE GROWN-UPS TURNED HIM OUT LIKE THAT. ★
REALLY?

HE PASSED UP NAGAHAMA!
YOU'VE ALREADY HIT YOUR PEAK, BUB!!
WAIT... NOW I REMEMBER!
-ZUBA (ZOOM)
UGH!
YOU WERE JUST A BIT FASTER TO DEVELOP THAN THE REST OF US!!
ONCE YOU HIT YOUR TWENTIES, YOU'LL BE ANOTHER AVERAGE JOE!
WHAT'D YOU SAY!?
SHRIMP!
WHAT!? I AM NOT A SHRIMP!!
←5'9"
5'5"→
BACK WHEN WE WERE KIDS...
"THAT'S A FOUL!"
SHUT UP!
HE ALWAYS TRIED TO SHOW ME UP WHEN EVEN THE COACHES GAVE ME THE RED-CARPET TREATMENT.
YOU GUYS ...
.....

AZUCHI-SENPAI!!! (6'1")
KYA!
THE
SHOULD SHARE
SU (SWISH)
HWAH!?
ZAN (SLIP)
DAMMIT, IBUKI!!
NOT SO FAST!
"HEH."
GA (WHAM)
HA HA HA HA
MALICIA! DIRTY PLAY!
DOGA (WHAM)
GA
GA
GA (WHACK)
!!
THAT HURTS, DAMMIT.
GURA (FLUMP)
AZUCHI'S THE MOST PHYSICAL PLAYER ON OUR TEAM, AND HE'S BEING PUSHED AROUND!!
BROTHER, NAE!!
WHA...!?

OKAY!!
NAAA
NAAA
MOVE THE BALL!
WATCH OUT BEHIND YOU!!
PASHI (SNAK)
MISHI-MA!!
BI (BOINK)
GOT IT!
SETA-SAN!
PASHI (KLOK)
KANRI
NODO!
ZUDO (THUD)
PUNIJIJI (GRUMM)
EEP!
KYAAAA!!
!?
SU
SU (SWISH)
BA (ZIP)

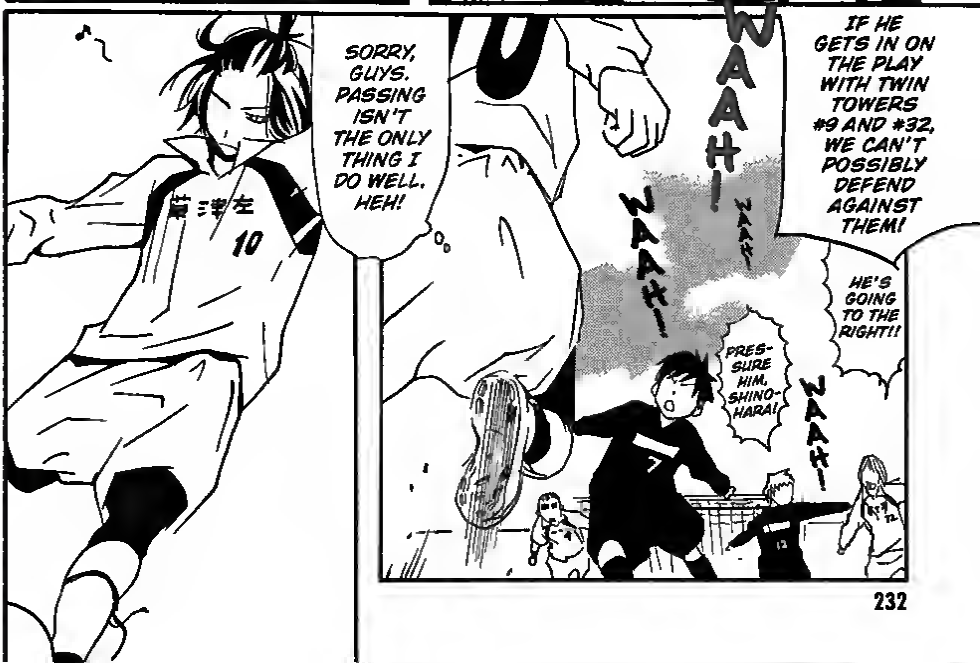
KUSATSU HIDARI LIVES UP TO THEIR BILLING...
WAAH!
THEY'RE SURROUNDED!
WAAH!
RAKUICHI JERSEY: SHINDOIYO = WHAT A PAIN
GOT IT...!
PASHI (SNAP)
SHINDOIYO
AT A GLANCE, THEY SEEM THE TYPE OF GUYS TO STICK OUT WITH FLASHY INDIVIDUAL PLAY...
WAAH!
!
THIS WAY!
BA (ZWOP)
AND AS A DAMN GOOD TEAM TOO...
...BUT THEY EACH KNOW THEIR ROLE AND FUNCTION AS A TEAM.
HRRMITY-HRRM-HRRM-HMM!
...TOUZAN, NAGAHAMA, HIKIYAMA, AND MAIBARA... AND ONE OF THEM ISN'T EVEN HERE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE FOUR EXCELLENT BUT IDIOSYNCRATIC LEADERS...

CHECK UP #9!!
POOON (BOING)
OPEN IN FRONT OF THE GOAL!!
DAMN!
BI (BWAM)
RYUUOU!
WAAH!
BUWA (WHOOSH)
GU (SHOVE)
!?
THEY'RE ALL GIANTS!
KA (THAK)
HE'S TOO TALL!!

KAN
(CLONK)
DOKA
(WHAM)
THERE IT GOES! THE DRAGON HEADER !!
SO CLOSE!
HAN
HAM
AWW!!
GIRI GIRI YABAI!!!
SIGN "ALMOST WENT IN!!!"
THE BALL'S STILL IN PLAY!!
OHHH
BUT IT WAS AMAZ-ING!
WHAT A DUMB NAME!
GIMME A BREAK!
AND THAT SPIN!
D-DRAGON HEAD-ERI?
WHAT CRAZY HOPS!
CLEAR IT!!
HYU
(WHISH)
!!!

DO (BOOM)
AZUCHI-SENPAI!!
ZUBA (BOOSH)
YES! NICE ONE, TOUZAN!
GREAT PLAY!!
UKYAA!
LOVE!
PASHI (TEKK)
KA (THOK)

GEH!
HE KNOWS JUST WHERE TO BE!
OH HELL, NO!
GIVING THE BALL OVER TO THAT MASTER KICKER WAS THE LAST THING WE WANTED TO DO!!
WAAH!
KYAAA!
...!
DA CDASH!
HATA-SHOU!
NICE PASS!


SORRY, GUYS. PASSING ISN'T THE ONLY THING I DO WELL. HEH!
IF HE GETS IN ON THE PLAY WITH TWIN TOWERS #9 AND #32, WE CAN'T POSSIBLY DEFEND AGAINST THEM!
WAAH!
WAAH!
WAAH!
HE'S GOING TO THE RIGHT!!
PRES-SURE HIM, SHINO-HARA!
WAAH!

NOT YET.
!!!
DA (ZIP)
MAIBARA-SENPAI!
WHERE HAS HE BEEN ALL THIS TIME!?
#4!!
...ARE FLANKING HIM ON BOTH SIDES!!
DA (ZIP)
ANTON'S BROS...
DA
DA
DA (DASH)
NAAH!
NAAH!
WHICH WAY!?
.....!!

!!?
BO
(BOOM)
32
KASA
(PINAP)

WAAH!
WAAH!
WAAH!
PRIDE OF OUR SCHOOL!
WATASHOU-KUN!!
GOAL!
GOOOOOOOOAL!
BISHI (JAB)
10
A TOTAL LONG-RANGE SHOT...
...THROUGH MAIBARA-KUN'S LEGS...
HOLY WOW!!
LIKE, WOW
HE'S KINDA HOT!
TCH!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!?
SIGH...
WAAH!
WAAH!
4
SO THAT'S WHAT...

SHIRT KUSATSU—

IT'S GUSUKU. (SOB)
...GUSTAV-(?)SAN?
OH...
...ISN'T THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO?
UMM...
M-MAIBARA? DON'T SWEAT IT.
IT'S ONLY TIED.
IT'S OVER.
I'M NOT GOING TO SAY THAT WE DON'T HAVE A SINGLE PLAYER...
...WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO TURN THIS GAME AROUND...
OH?
...THERE'S ONLY ONE PLAYER ON THE TEAM WHO CAN ACT EFFECTIVELY...
...BUT WITH HIKIYAMA-KUN ABSENT AND TOUZAN STUCK RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE GOAL...
NORITSUGU MAIBARA...

SHEESH! WHEN IS MATSURI-SENPAI GOING TO GET HERE!?
THAT RASCAL!
IF ONLY MATSURI-SENPAI WERE HERE...
BOOO (DURR)
AAAH...
BUTSU (MUTTER)
SIGH...
BUTSU
THERE HE GOES, YOUKAI-ICHI!!
IS HE EVEN GOING TO SHOW UP?
SHIRT: KUSATSU HIDARI
DIE!
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!
FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD, YOUKAICHI!!
GRAAAH!
RAWR!
TA (TAP)
AGH!!
SHIT!
WIDE OPEN!
BA (ZOOM)
GIVE IT BACK!
HATA-SHOU!
PASHI (SNAP)

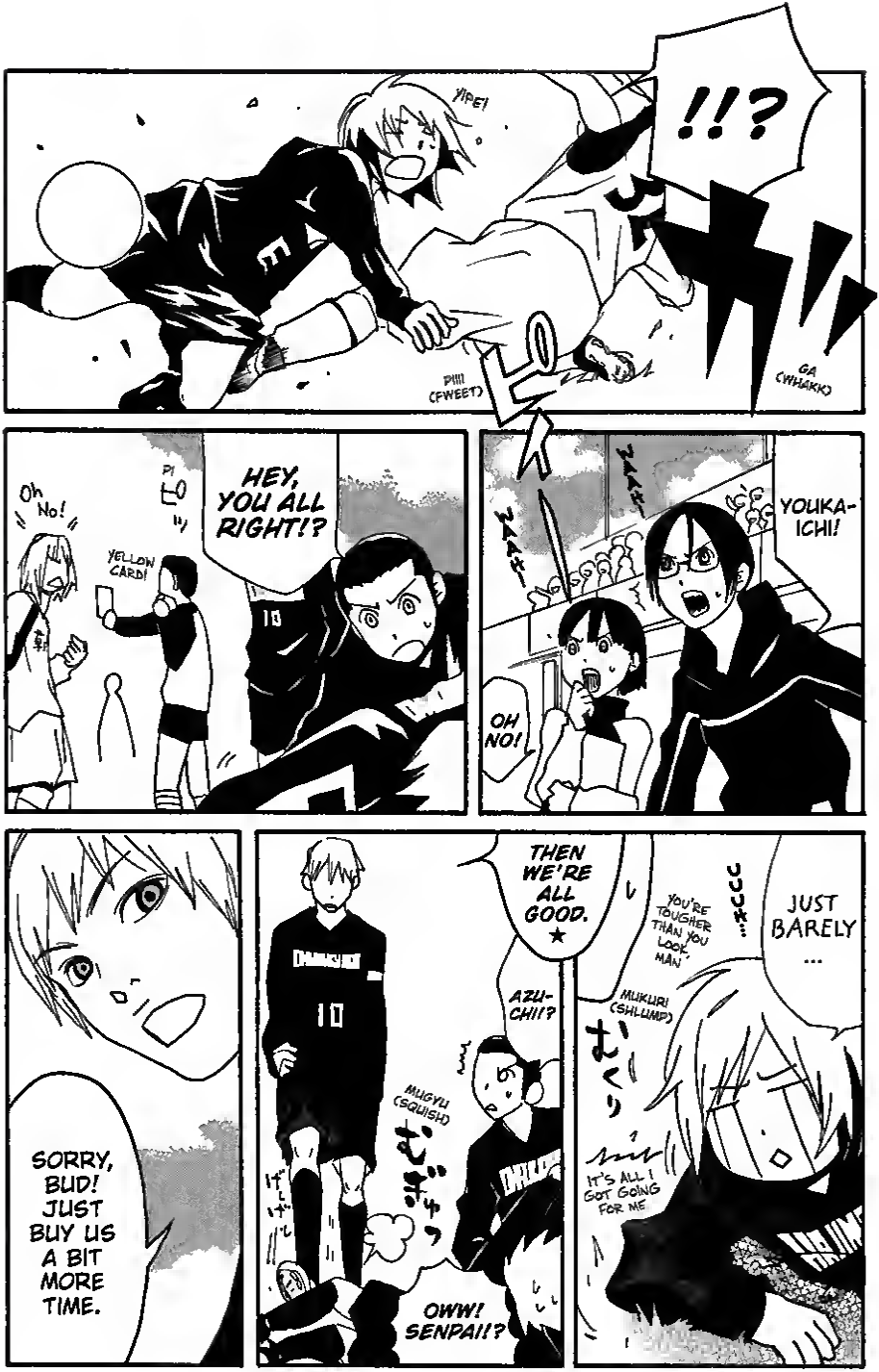
ZUBA (SWOOP)
WHA?
MAIBARA-SENPAI!
DOKA (WHAM)
BO (BFF)
WHO IS THIS GUY!?

HOLY CRAP, WHAT A PASS!!
WHA!?
THE KIND OF BLOODLESSLY-PRECISE LONG-FIELD PASS THAT CAN TURN DANGER INTO OPPORTUNITY IN A SINGLE BLINK!!
YES! THAT'S WHAT WE NEED!!
GOD-DAMN!!
THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT HIS PASSING IS EVEN MORE PRECISE THAN HIKIYAMA-KUN'S, SO IT TAKES AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF SKILL TO RECEIVE...
ARGH, THIS IS SO AGGRA-VAT-ING!!
ALI (SOB)
NAAH!
NAAH!
WHO THAT #4 GUY?
草津左
31
THAT PASS GO AT LEAST 150 FEET...
AWWW! SO CLOSE!!
BO (BOMP)
BUT I CAN'T REACH IT!
ZUZA (SLIDE)

...MAIBARA-SENPAI'S REPEATED CUT PASSES AND LONG VOLLEYS CREATED CHANCE AFTER CHANCE...
AFTER THAT ...
MEANWHILE, SENPAI'S ANGER BEGAN TO REACH ITS PEAK.
HUH!?
...SQUIRRELED AWAY ANY CHANCES TO SCORE.
...BUT THE INEPTNESS OF THE FORWARD PLAYERS AND KUSATSU'S TOUGH DEFENSE...
AND BY THE THIRTIETH MINUTE OF THE FIRST HALF...
MUKA (GRRR)
MUKA
PUNSUKA (FUME)
AZUCHI-SENPAI COULDN'T LEAVE THE AREA AROUND GOAL, DUE TO THE THREAT OF THE "TWIN TOWERS."
AS USUAL, RAKUICHI FAILED TO MAKE AN IMPACT.
IRA (IRK)
IRA
HUFF!
DAMMIT!
HUFF!
CRAP!

WAAH!
WHOO!
WAAHH—
KORO (ROLL)
...THEY HAD SURRENDERED THEIR THIRD GOAL.
<KUSATSU>
3 MIN.
⑩ HATASHOU 8 MIN.
⑨ RYUUJOH 22 MIN.
⑦ IBUKI 30 MIN.
<CHIKUBUSHIMA>
③ INUGAMI
WAAH!
MUUN (HMM)
IT'S ALL OVER.
4
HUFF
HUFF
ZA (ZSHH)
JUST AS WE EXPECTED, SENPAI.

PLUS, NAGAHAMA AND #4 HAVE SHORT FUSES. A BIT OF PRODDING, AND THEY FALL TO PIECES.
CHU (SMOOCH)
ONCE YOU HOLD DOWN AZUCHI, NAGAHAMA, #11, AND #4, THE REST ARE TRASH...
...AND FOR WHATEVER REASON, #11 AIN'T HERE TODAY.
YEP. ★
TOO, TOO EASY...
...CHIKUBU-SHIMA...
TO (TOK)
PIII (FWEEE)



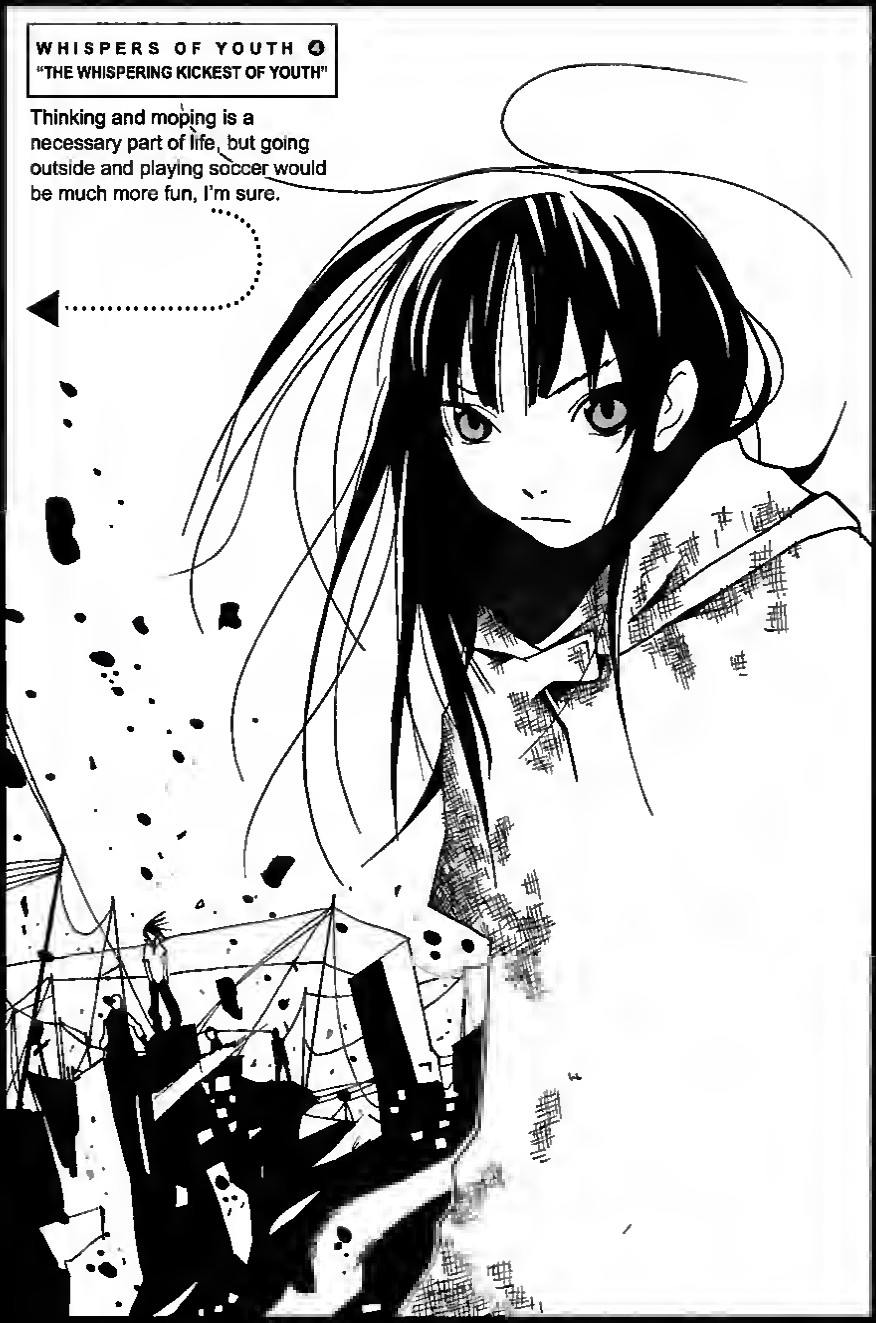
SFX. GESHI (STOMP) GESHI

I'VE FINALLY THOUGHT OF A STRATEGY ...
...THAT'LL BREAK THROUGH FOR US.
UH, SENPAI?
NAGAHAMA, YOU JOIN ANTONIO AT FORWARD.
WE'LL START BY CHANGING FORMATION.
DRIBBLE FOR ALL YOU'RE WORTH. GET THEM TO CHASE.
IF YOU GET THE BALL, JUST MOVE UP.

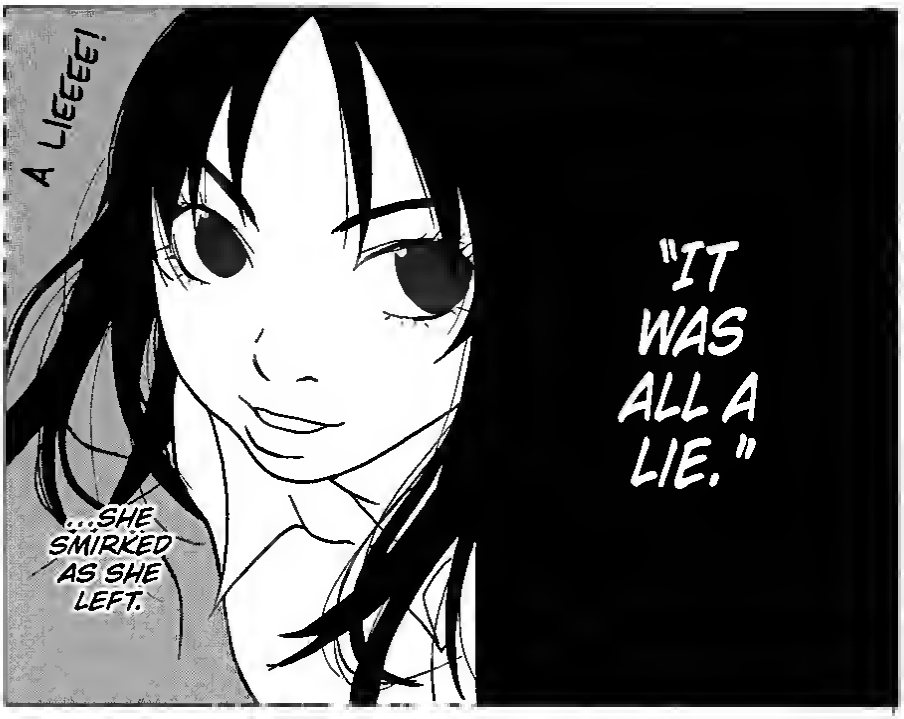
PLUS, YOU CALL THAT A "STRATEGY"?
HOWEVER ...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME!
HUH?
...DON'T SHOOT THE BALL, AND DON'T PASS EITHER.

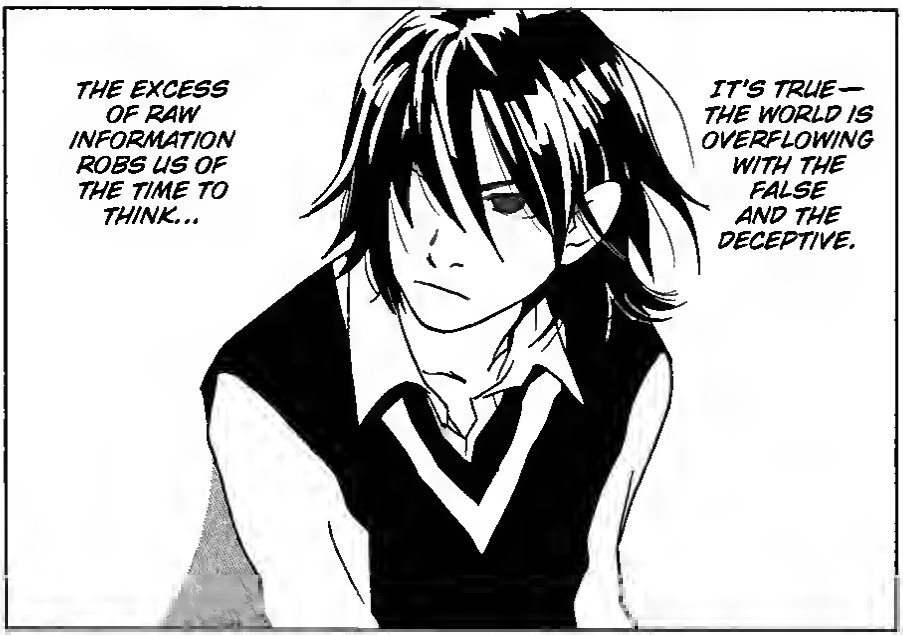
SASAMEKE # 04 **to be continued.**

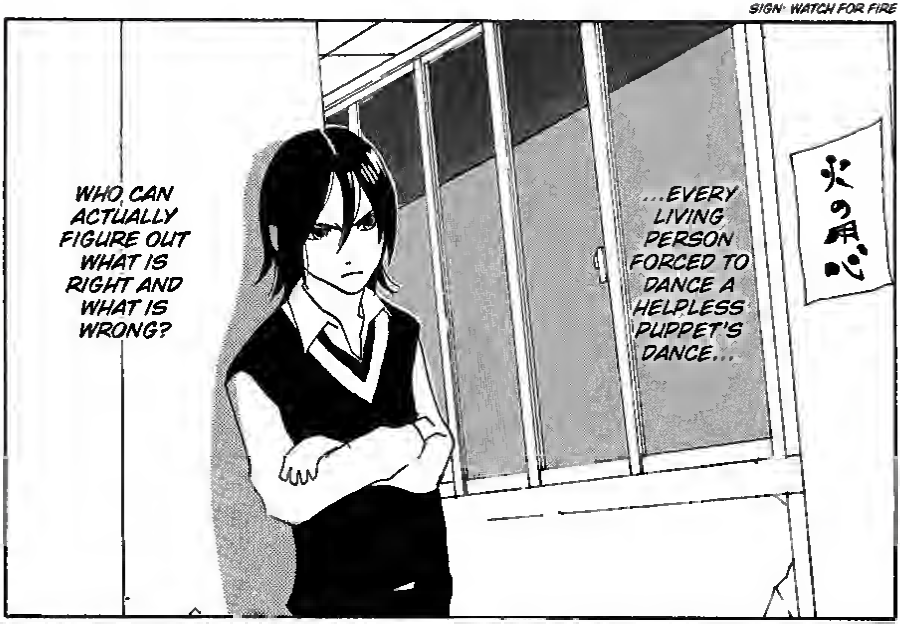
THE AUTHOR SPEAKS (IN A FLAT, BORING MUTTER)

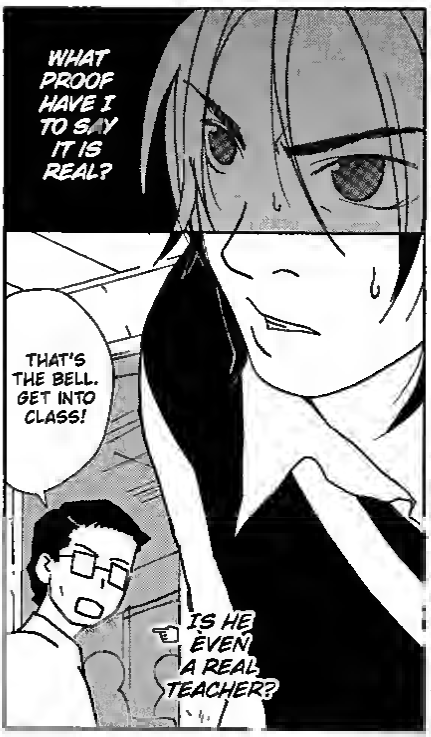

WHISPERS OF YOUTH ❹
"THE WHISPERING KICKEST OF YOUTH"
Thinking and moping is a necessary part of life, but going outside and playing soccer would be much more fun, I'm sure.

WHISPERS OF YOUTH SERIES
PART 1
The Whispering Kickest of Youth


A LIEEEE!
"IT WAS ALL A LIE."
...SHE SMIRKED AS SHE LEFT.


THE EXCESS OF RAW INFORMATION ROBS US OF THE TIME TO THINK...
IT'S TRUE— THE WORLD IS OVERFLOWING WITH THE FALSE AND THE DECEPTIVE.

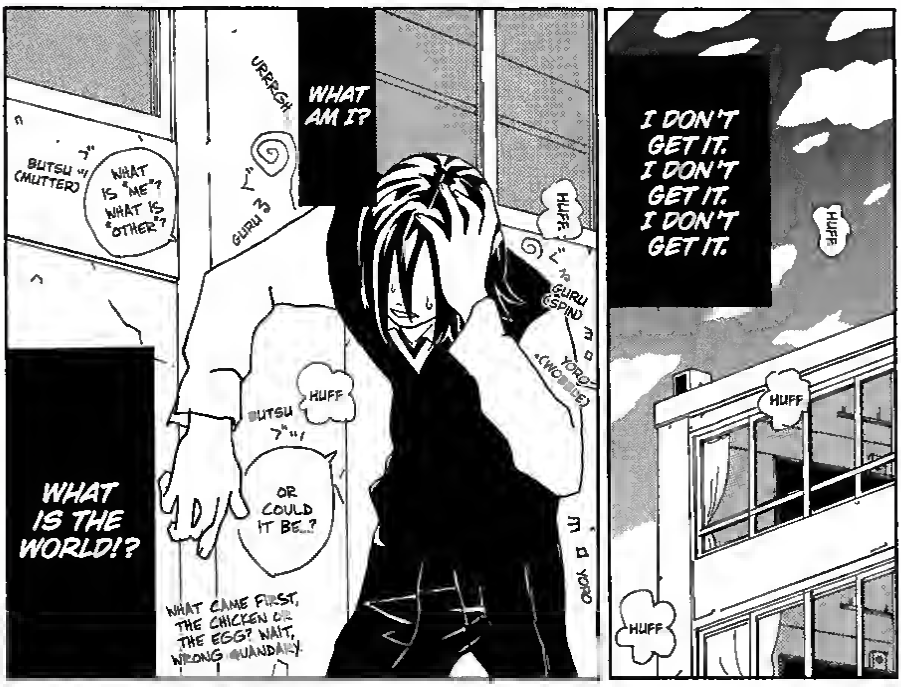

WHO CAN ACTUALLY FIGURE OUT WHAT IS RIGHT AND WHAT IS WRONG?
...EVERY LIVING PERSON FORCED TO DANCE A HELPLESS PUPPET'S DANCE...
火の用心


WHAT PROOF HAVE I TO SAY IT IS REAL?
THAT'S THE BELL. GET INTO CLASS!
IS HE EVEN A REAL TEACHER?

EVEN THAT SCHOOL BELL COULD BE A LIE.
KIIN (DIING)
KOON (DOONG)
KAAN (DAANG)
HA (GASP)
キーン
コーン
カーン
コーン
キーン
コーン

ARE YOU CRAZY?
WHAT, DO I HAVE TO SHOW YOU MY LICENSE?
OR A LIBRARY CARD?
DON'T POINT AT ME
!?
SENSEI ...?
BUT WAIT! DOES ANY HUMAN BEING ACTUALLY HAVE THE MEANS TO UNDENIABLY PROVE TO ANOTHER PERSON THAT HE IS HIMSELF?
OH, SHUT UP. HOW DOES A FLIMSY CARD PROVE THAT YOU ARE, IN FACT, YOU?

SHUT UP! YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER SPOKESMAN FOR ALL SAD, EMPTY ADULTS (MEANING UNCLEAR)!!
DA (DASH)
WAAAH!
NO!!
H-HEY! NAGA-HAMA!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?


WHAT AM I?
URRGH
BUTSU (MUTTER)
WHAT IS "ME"? WHAT IS "OTHER"?
GURU
WHAT IS THE WORLD!?
HUFF
BUTSU
OR COULD IT BE...?
WHAT CAME FIRST, THE CHICKEN OR THE EGG? WAIT, WRONG QUANDARY.
HUFF
GURU (SPIN)
YORO
(WOOZY)
YORO
I DON'T GET IT. I DON'T GET IT. I DON'T GET IT.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

DAMN IT ALL!!
IS THERE ANYTHING IN THIS GREAT, WIDE WORLD THAT I CAN BELIEVE IN?
I DON'T BELIEVE IN ANYTHING ANYMORE! I DON'T WANT TO BE HURT! I DON'T WANT TO BE BETRAYED!
YOU BIG DUMMY!!!
DA (LEAP)
BA (SPIN)
WHAT THE HELL?
(SNIFF)

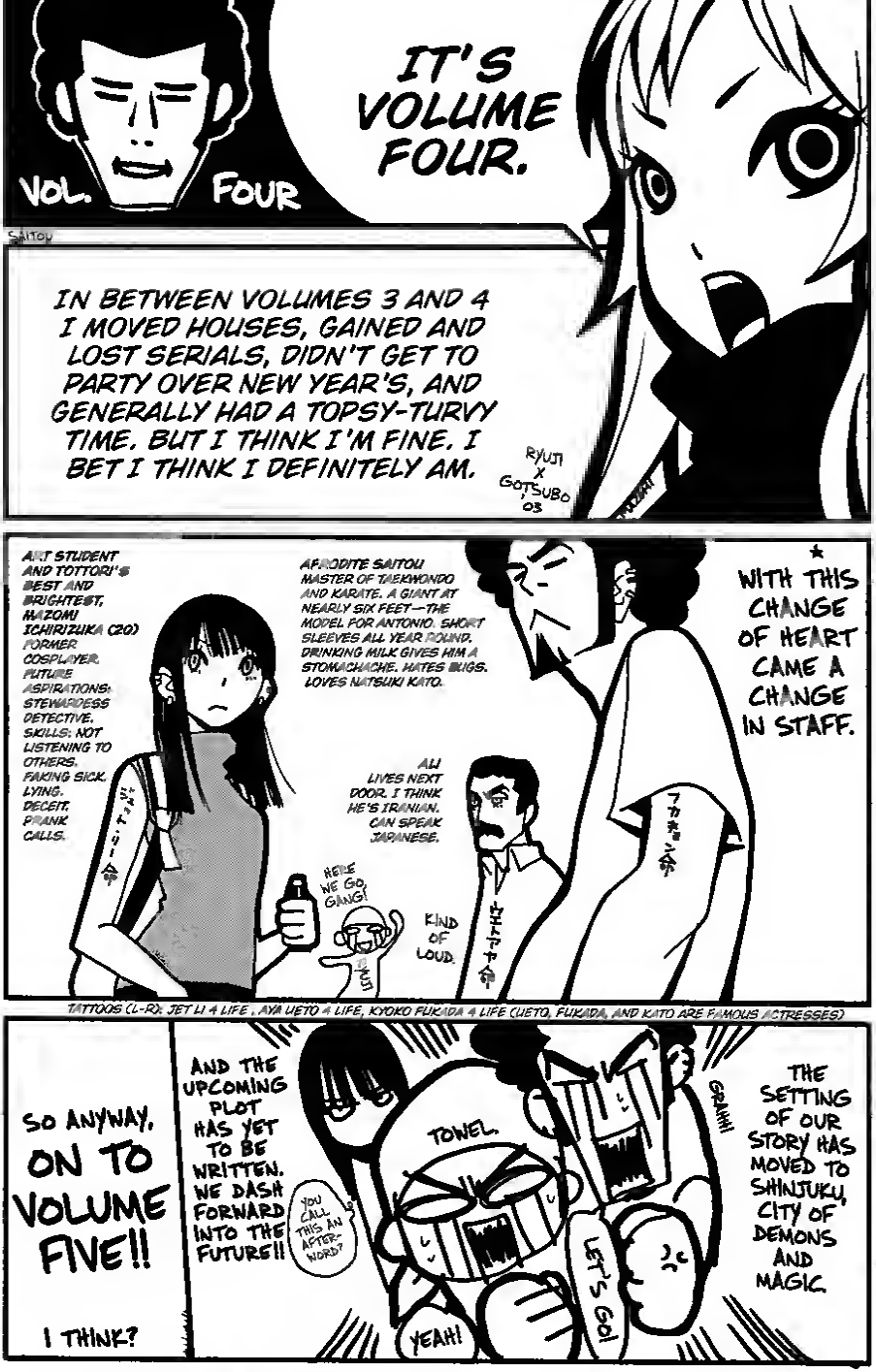
DON'T LOSE YOUR HEART'S ABILITY TO BELIEVE, OR YOU'RE ...
BWACK!
ZUGOSHAAA (KSHWAMM)
...WORTH-LESS!
YOU STUPID DINGLEBERRY!
IN JAPANESE, THAT'S "BAKA"

LOVE SAVES THE EARTH!!*
EVERY-BODY, SING ALONG!
LET YOUR HEART FREE TO ROAM!
AND ACCEPT THE WAY IT IS!
THAT'S HOW WE ALL GET ALONG!
BOSO (MUTTER)
SHUT UP, YOU LIAR.

*AN ANNUAL 24-HOUR CHARITY TELETHON PUT ON BY NIPPON TELEVISION NETWORK TO RAISE MONEY FOR DISASTER RELIEF, SOCIAL WELFARE, ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSES, ETC.

SCREAM FOR LOVE & PEACE!!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH AND TAKE A LOOK, BOY! THIS IS WHAT WE CALL THE PEACE SIGN! YOU SEE THAT? AHA-AHA-AHA! AH-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
SUSURI (SQUISH)
GAAH!

MAGAZINE, TEEN GIRLS WANTED


VOL. FOUR
IT'S VOLUME FOUR.
SAITOU
IN BETWEEN VOLUMES 3 AND 4 I MOVED HOUSES, GAINED AND LOST SERIALS, DIDN'T GET TO PARTY OVER NEW YEAR'S, AND GENERALLY HAD A TOPSY-TURVY TIME. BUT I THINK I'M FINE. I BET I THINK I DEFINITELY AM.
RYUJI X GOTSUBO 03
ART STUDENT AND TOTTORI'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST, HAZOMI ICHIRIZUKA (20) FORMER COSPLAYER. FUTURE ASPIRATIONS: STEWARDESS DETECTIVE. SKILLS: NOT LISTENING TO OTHERS. FAKING SICK. LYING. DECEIT. PRANK CALLS.
APHRODITE SAITOU MASTER OF TAEKWONDO AND KARATE. A GIANT AT NEARLY SIX FEET—THE MODEL FOR ANTONIO. SHORT SLEEVES ALL YEAR ROUND. DRINKING MILK GIVES HIM A STOMACHACHE. HATES BUGS. LOVES NATSUKI KATO.
ALI LIVES NEXT DOOR. I THINK HE'S IRANIAN. CAN SPEAK JAPANESE.
HERE WE GO GANG!
KIND OF LOUD.
★ WITH THIS CHANGE OF HEART CAME A CHANGE IN STAFF.
TATTOOS (L-R): JET LI 4 LIFE , AYA UETO 4 LIFE, KYOKO FUKADA 4 LIFE (UETO, FUKADA, AND KATO ARE FAMOUS ACTRESSES)
SO ANYWAY, ON TO VOLUME FIVE!!
I THINK?
AND THE UPCOMING PLOT HAS YET TO BE WRITTEN. WE DASH FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE!!
YOU CALL THIS AN AFTERWORD?
TONE!
GRAHH!
THE SETTING OF OUR STORY HAS MOVED TO SHINJUKU, CITY OF DEMONS AND MAGIC.
LET'S GO!
YEAH!

★ SASAMEKE TRIVIA: THE LOVELY ADVERTISING FLAPS THAT COME ON THE JAPANESE VOLUMES ARE INCLUDED EVEN ON LATER PRINTINGS. THEY'RE ON PRETTY MUCH ANY COPY OF ANY VOLUME ASIDE FROM VOLUMES 1 AND 2. (AND ASIDE FROM THE ENGLISH EDITIONS. SORRY.)

Homepage address: http://52bros.com (site is in Japanese)

T-SHIRTS AND STUFF.

SASAMEKE T-SHIRTS ARE ON SALE NOW!!!
YES, A SECOND ROUND HAVE BEEN MADE!
I RECOMMEND THE ANTON SHIRT.

NEW ANTON MODEL

NEW MAIKO MODEL

WE EVEN MAKE CUSTOM T-SHIRTS.

SPASIBO!

CHECK IT OUT!!!

*SORRY, THE ITEMS ON THIS PAGE ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

SDRDSGN

THERE'S ALSO AN INDIE CLOTHING BRAND WITH A SPECIAL COLLABORATION T-SHIRT WITH RYUJYUGOTSUBO HIMSELF!

WE COULD MAKE TOTE BAGS TOO

SDR, AKA... SCORPION DEATH ROCK

Don't Use By Hard and Heavy Users Only

SASAMEKE CHARACTERS ARE SEEN WEARING SOME DESIGNS! AND THEY EVEN SHOW UP IN ANOTHER PRETTY AWESOME MANGA

SCORPION DEATH ROCK DESIGNZ
UNDERGROUND WEAR BRAND

SDRDSGN

ILLUSTRATION BY ICHIRIZUKA MAZOMI

I ALSO DRAW THIS MOMGA!

CRAZY AND AWESOME CHARACTERS ALL OVER THE PLACE! THE HEROIC TRAVAILS OF FAKE-ASS POSEUR ROCKER ROKUSUKE!?

THE END

I WAS BORN IN AN AREA WHERE SOCCER, THE BIGGEST OF ALL SPORTS IN THE ENTIRE WORLD, WAS COMPLETELY BARREN (EVEN THE GREAT J-LEAGUE BOOM OF THE '90s PASSED WITHOUT A TRACE HERE), AND WHILE THERE WAS FINALLY AN INFORMAL SOCCER TEAM LOOSELY AFFILIATED WITH MY PRIMARY SCHOOL, THERE WAS NO TEAM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND NOT IN HIGH SCHOOL EITHER. (OF COURSE, MY POOR SCHOLASTIC SCORES HELD ME OUT OF BETTER SCHOOLS, BUT WHY CAN'T THERE AT LEAST BE A SOCCER TEAM THERE? NO BASKETBALL EITHER. IN A SCHOOL WITH A THOUSAND STUDENTS!) IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS SPITTING UP BLOOD IN MY BREATHLESS ZEAL TO PLAY SOCCER MYSELF (OF COURSE, IT WOULD BE DRAMATIC AND INSPIRING TO SAY I WAS), BUT I THOUGHT IT SEEMED FUN AND WISHED TO TRY IT. AND I THINK THAT'S WHAT SPORTS REALLY COME DOWN TO AT THE CORE. I DON'T LIKE THE "WINNING-IS-ALL" PHILOSOPHY THAT SEEMS TO PERMEATE SCHOOL SPORTING CLUBS. AND THE TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS PUSHY AND ANNOYING. BUT IT'S HARD WHEN YOU LIVE IN A WORLD IN WHICH SPORTS ONLY EXIST AROUND SCHOOL. YOU CAN PLAY BASKETBALL WITH A HOOP AND A FEW PEOPLE, BUT A SOCCER GOAL CAN ONLY BE FOUND ON A FIELD OR A GYMNASIUM, AND THERE ARE ONLY SO MANY OF THOSE. SURE, YOU CDULD ENTERTAIN SDME KIDS BY SETTING UP GOALS IN THE MIDDLE OF A PARK. BUT YOU COULD ARGUE THERE ARE MORE KIDS WHO WOULD BENEFIT BY USING A LARGE SPACE TO RIDE THEIR SKATEBOARDS OR BICYCLES. IN THE CITY, SPACE IS HARD TO COME BY, SO YOU LEARN TO APPRECIATE AND MAKE THE MOST OF WHAT YOU HAVE, BUT THAT MENTALITY DOESN'T EXIST IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, AND IT MAKES ME SAD. I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE WE COULDN'T SET IT UP OUT IN THE STICKS. AND THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD GET GOOD USE OUT OF AN INDOOR SOCCER FIELD. ANYWAY, IT'S NOT LIKE ME COMPLAINING ABOUT THIS IS GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING, BUT AS LONG AS I WRITE DOWN THIS LITTLE WHISPER FOR POSTERITY'S SAKE, THERE'S ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT MIGHT REACH SOMEONE DOWN THE ROAD. TURNS OUT OTHER PEOPLE DON'T READ YOUR MIND IF YOU DON'T SAY ANYTHING, BUT I DON'T HAVE THE GUTS TO SHOUT AND SCREAM, SO I JUST WHISPER, LIKE THIS. WHISPERS: THE POWER OF HOPING YOU INFLUENCE SOMEONE ELSE TO HELP. THAT'S WHY I NAMED THIS MANGA "*SASAMEKE*," AFTER THE COMMAND TO "WHISPER"!

ACTUALLY, I JUST THOUGHT OF THAT NOW. (AND I GUESS IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE MANGA ITSELF.) ANYWAY, THAT'S THE END OF THAT.

STAFF LIST

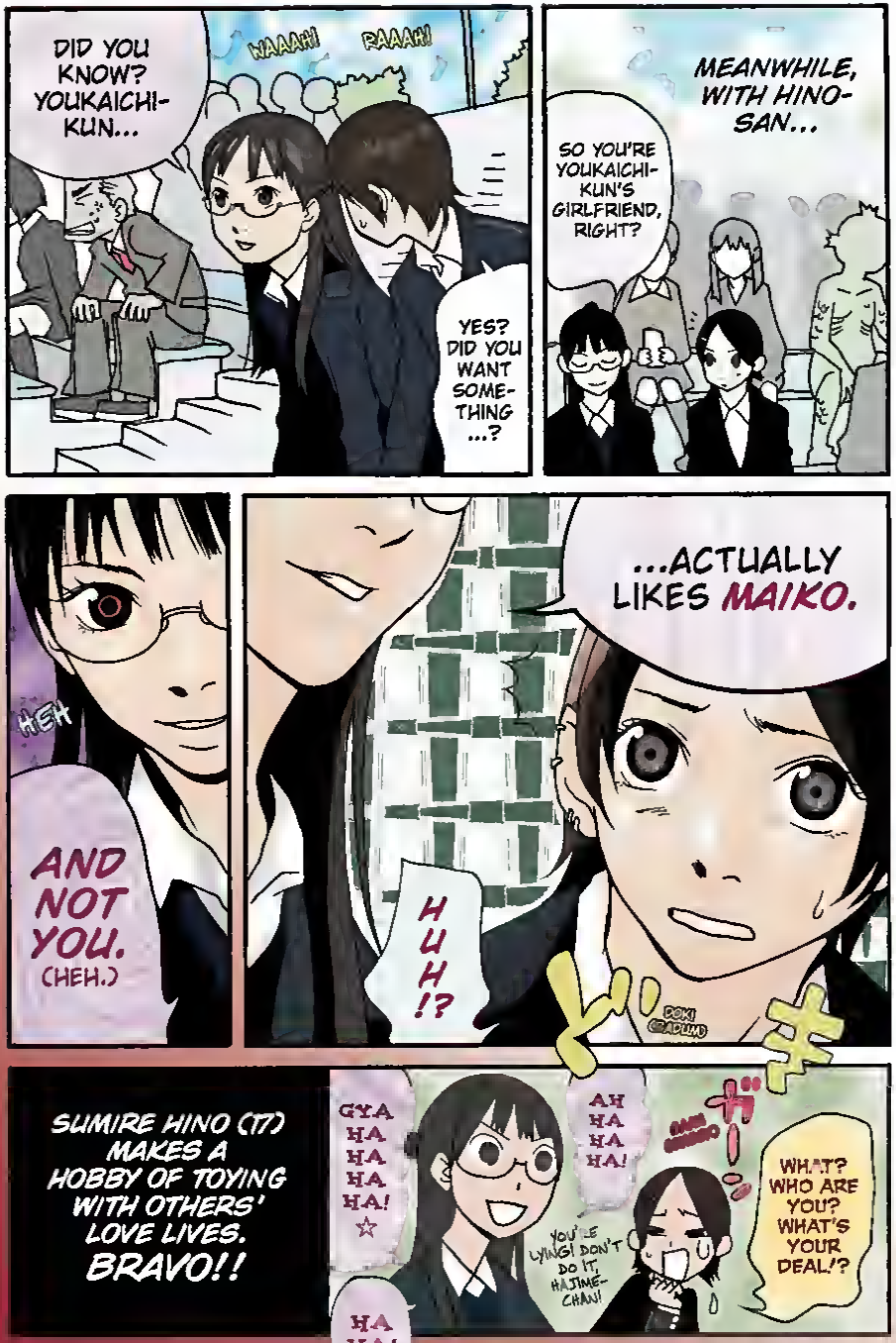
PANEL BORDERS AND STUFF: MASORU224 @ SLEEP DISORDER

ERASER AND STUFF: AFRODITE SAITOU (PISCES)

SCREENTONES AND STUFF: MAZOMI ICHIRIZUKA (NEW GIRL)

IDEAS: AFRO DAI-X @ LACK OF SLEEP

SASAMEKE


DID YOU KNOW? YOUKAICHI-KUN...
WAAAH!
RAAAH!
YES? DID YOU WANT SOME-THING ...?
MEANWHILE, WITH HINO-SAN...
SO YOU'RE YOUKAICHI-KUN'S GIRLFRIEND, RIGHT?
...ACTUALLY LIKES MAIKO.
DOKI
DOKUN
HUH!?
HE?
AND NOT YOU.
(HEH.)
SUMIRE HINO (17) MAKES A HOBBY OF TOYING WITH OTHERS' LOVE LIVES. BRAVO!!
GYA HA HA HA HA! ☆
HA HA!
AH HA HA HA!
YOU'RE LYING! DON'T DO IT, HAJIME-CHAN!
HAJIME-CHAN!
WHAT? WHO ARE YOU? WHAT'S YOUR DEAL!?

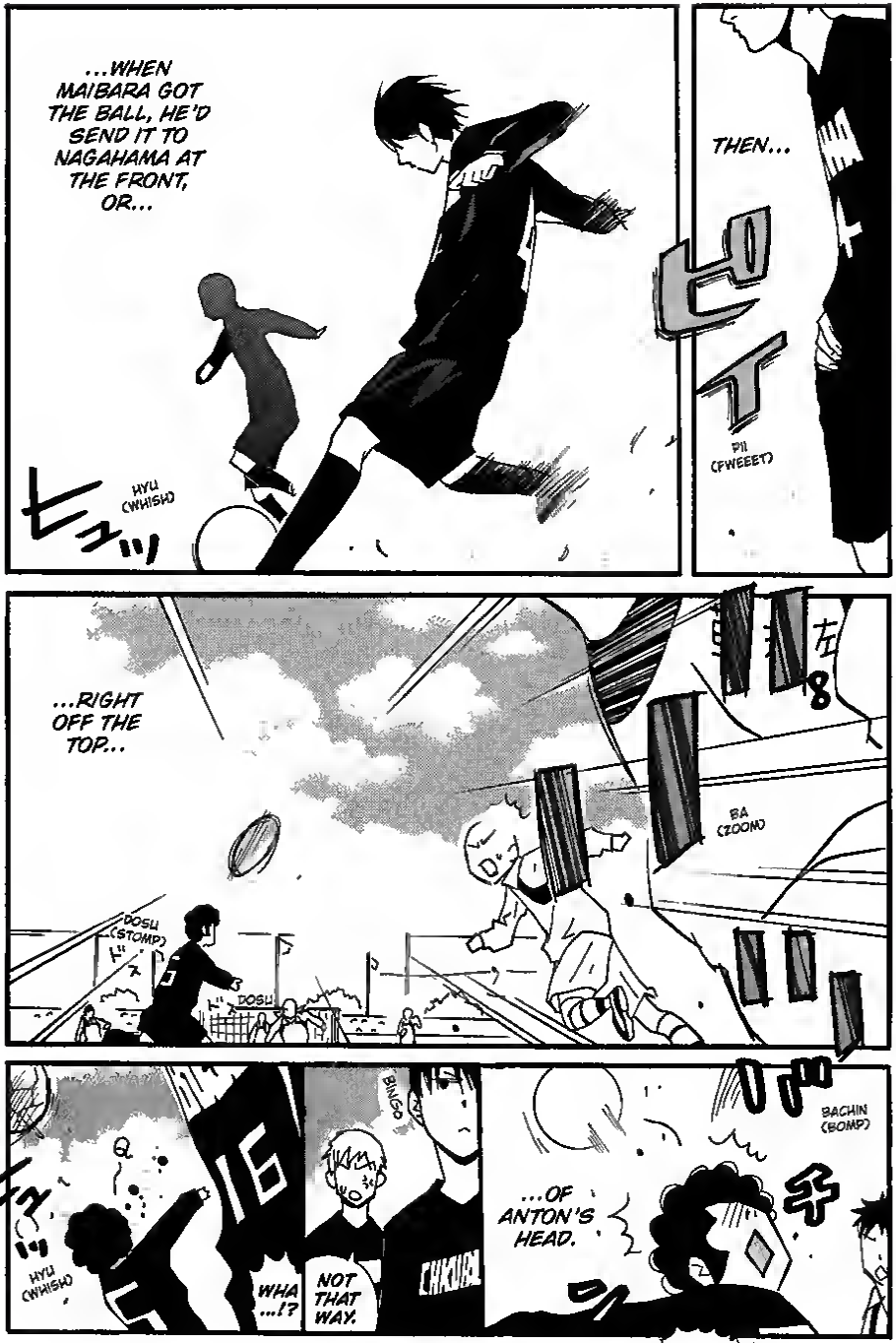
#05
SASAMEKE

#05
SASAMEKE

#05

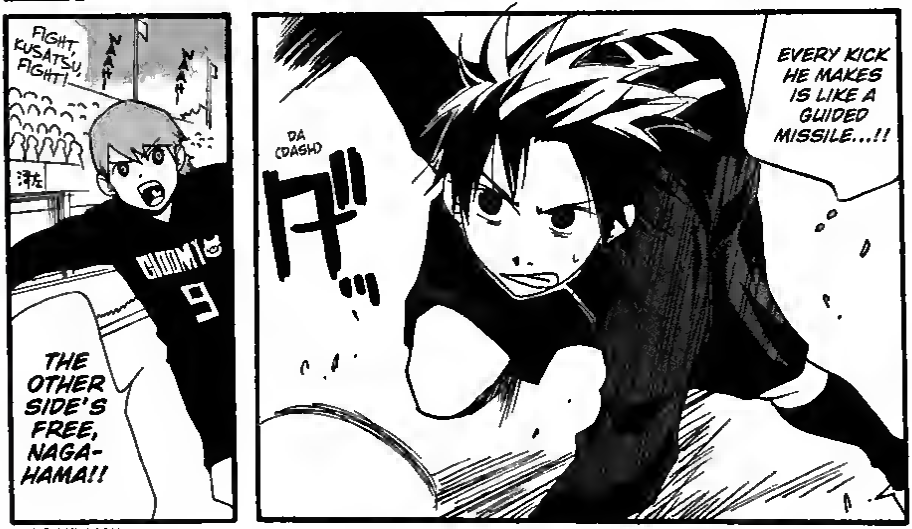
NTH

NO PASSING OR SHOOTING!?
...AZUCHI CAME OUT WITH A WEIRD IDEA...
IS HE, LIKE... STUPID?
AND HOW ARE WE GOING TO SCORE THAT WAY?
NAGAHAMA, YOU DRIBBLE THE BALL LIKE CRAZY.
BUT YOU ARE FORBIDDEN FROM PASSING OR SHOOTING!
I'VE GOT A PLAN.
THIRTY MIN-UTES INTO THE FIRST HALF ...
CHIKUTAIKAI
10
JERSEY: CHIKUTAIKAI = REGIONAL TOURNAMENT
CONT.
I'M DUO-DECA-PLETS!!?
AHHAA!!
NO REALLY, I WAS CONSIDERING THIS BUT EVEN I KNEW THIS WOULD NOT PASS MUSTER, BELIEVE IT OR NOT..
HEH HEH HEH...
RAKUICHI'S DEAR MAMA WAS ACTUALLY A MAD SCIENTIST WHO TOYED WITH ALL OF OUR SACRED CONCEPTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND NATURAL LOGIC!
MY ORIGINAL IDEA FOR CHIKUBUSHIMA'S FINAL OPPONENT WAS A TEAM OF ELEVEN CLONED RAKUICHIS!!
BOOYAH!!
OUT OF THE VAULT FOR THE FINAL VOLUME SCRAPPED IDEAS ①
OTHERAKU, RAKUTHREE, RAKUFOUR, RAKUFIVE, RAKUSIX!
I HAD AN ARGENTINIAN RIVAL AT ONE POINT WHOOPS, I FORGOT TO DO THE ACCENT!!
JERSEYS: BLACK CHIKUBUSHIMA


...WHEN MAIBARA GOT THE BALL, HE'D SEND IT TO NAGAHAMA AT THE FRONT, OR...
HYU (WHISH)
THEN...
PII (FWEEET)
...RIGHT OFF THE TOP...
BA (ZOOM)
DOSU (STOMP)
DOSU
HYU (WHISH)
WHA...!?
BINGO
NOT THAT WAY.
...OF ANTON'S HEAD.
BACHIN (BOMP)
OWW!

OOH!
RAKU-ICHI!
PASHI (SNAKK)
ZAAA
THE HELL WAS THAT?
ZA (ZSHH)

THE KID'S GOT A DECENT REACTION TIME.
WHY IS HE ALWAYS SO HIGH AND MIGHTY?
HOHH.


FIGHT, KUSATSU, FIGHT!
NAN
NAN
9
THE OTHER SIDE'S FREE, NAGA-HAMA!!
DA (DASH)
EVERY KICK HE MAKES IS LIKE A GUIDED MISSILE...!!

ZAAH—
REITOUKU
16
ZA (ZIP)
HEY! LISTEN!
ZAAH—
ZAAH—
ZAAH
ZAZA (ZSHH)
JERSEY: REITOUKU • REFRIGERATOR
STUPID BASTARD!
YOU THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH MORE DRIBBLING?
YOU'RE CAPABLE OF BURSTING THROUGH ENEMY LINES...
THIS IS CRAZY, NAGA-HAMA-KUN.
...BUT THIS IS KUSATSU HIDARI WE'RE TALKING ABOUT...!!
IT WON'T WORK!
BABA (ZOOM)
16

!?
DOSA (DWOOSH)
OOH.
HOW DID HE DO THAT?
YEAH!
WHAAAH!?
NI (SMIRK)
YOU KNOW, WE TECHNICALLY JAPANESE TOO
BROTHER FUSTO
THAT JAPONESE NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL!!
SHIRT: KUSATSU HIDARI

SHUDDUP.
TA (TMP)
SURROUND HIM, DE-FENSE!!
BA (ZIP)
GOAL, GOAL, GOAL, GOAL! SCORE MY OWN GOAL!
BUTT-CHU (BUTTER)
BUTT-CHU
I'LL BE THE HERO!
DOGA (WHAMM)
WAH!
MAN, THAT #16 IS CRAZY.
HE PASSED UP IBUKI AND CARMEN-SENPAI AT THE SAME TIME.
FUJIO!!
MM?
EEP!
PWEEEI (FOUL)
ZUDAN (WHOMP)

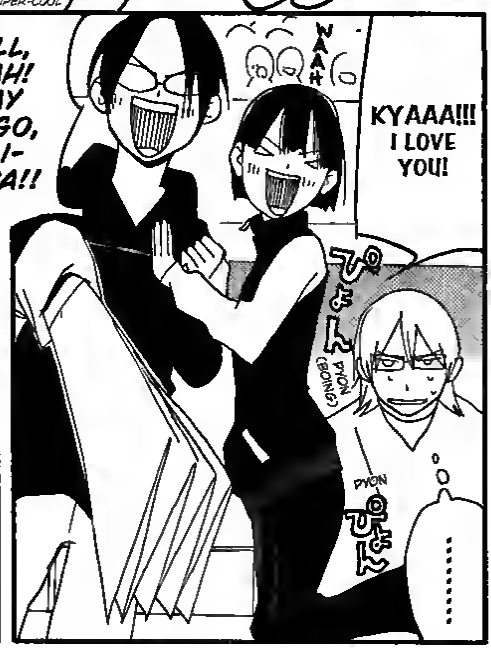
NICE DRIBBLING.
WELL.
ALL GOING BY THE PLAN.
YEAH.
NOT TOO SHABBY, KID.
.....!!
ZAN (SLICE)
ACCORDING TO PLAN? NOT SHABBY? WHAT?
SURELY YOU JEST!
STILL, WE'VE GOT A LOT OF DISTANCE TO COVER...
MMBLE/ MMBLE/
HMPH.
HA-HA, RIGHT.
WHO IS HE? TA (TMP) TA
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK I AM?

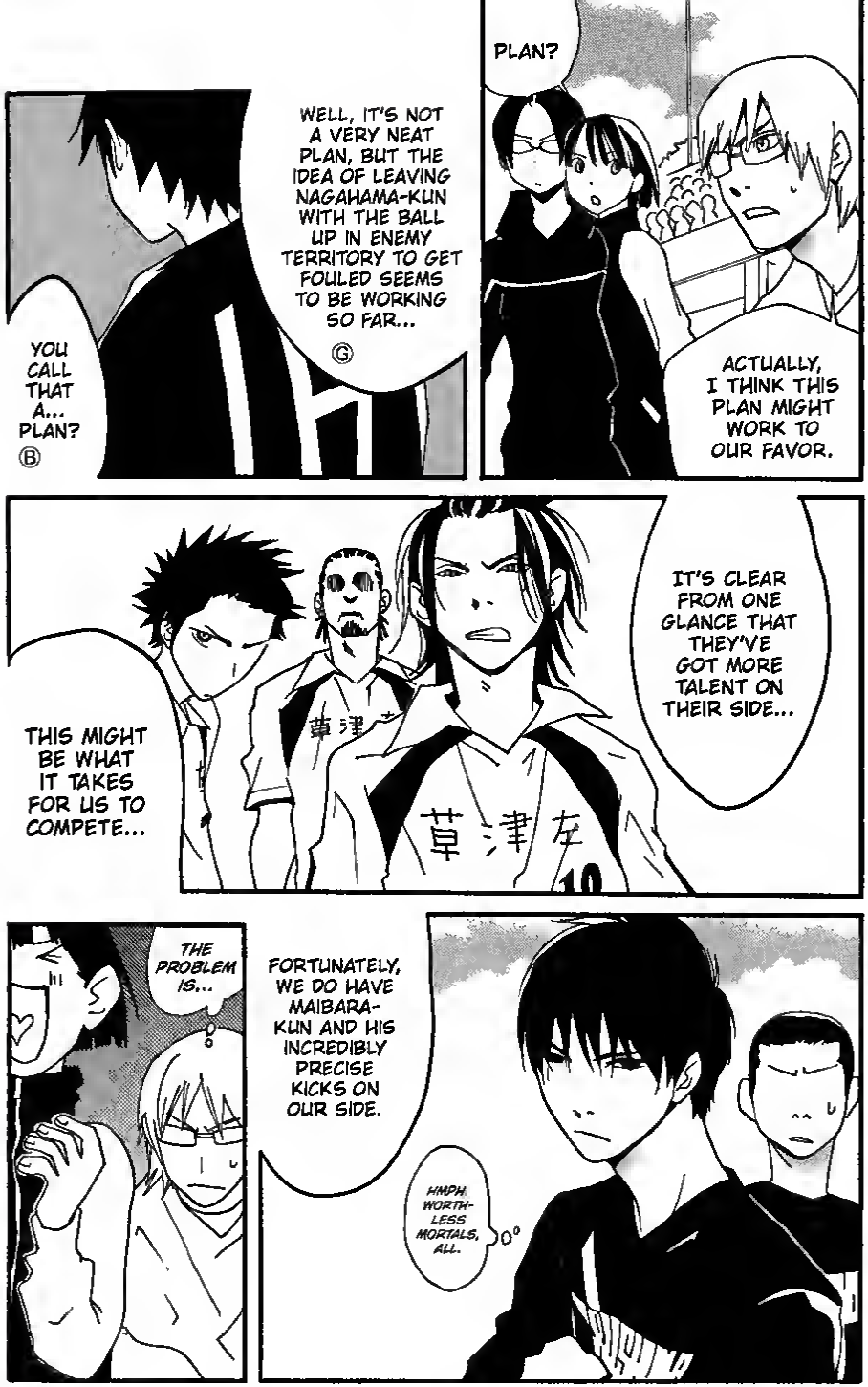
...TO PAY HIM BACK FOR THAT LITTLE TRICK BETWEEN THE LEGS...
SHOOT!
I STILL NEED ...
草津左
10
...OF PURE HUMILIATION...
NAAH!
NAAH!
NAAH!
I'LL SINK HIM INTO A BOTTOM-LESS SEA...
NOW THERE'S A GUY WHO CAN LOFT A DAMN GOOD PASS...
NAAH!
THAT #4...
YOU'RE ALL TOO BIG TO BE ALLOWED.
GINJIRO (GLARE)
草津左
9
WHICH MEANS IT'S EITHER AFRO OR AZUCHI...
草津左
10
FU HA HA HA!
HMPH, BEEN A MANY LONG TIME, TOSHIKI.
GASU (STOMP)
草津左
31
草津左
33
BRO-THER!
GASU
PII (FWEEET)

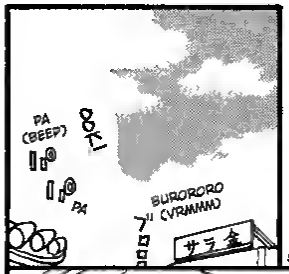
!
SU (SWISH)
GU CHIMPO
STOP PUSHING HER!
HEH HEH
KYAAA! MAIBARAAAA! KYAAA!
MAIBARA-SENPAI...
BOHYU (BWOOOM)
WAAH!
GOKURI (GULP)

KAKUN (SWERVE)
GRRK!
WHA ...!!?
TA (TMP)
HE'S AIMING FOR AZUCHI!!
NO WAYS!
ZABA (THWOP)
COCKY BASTARD ...
.....

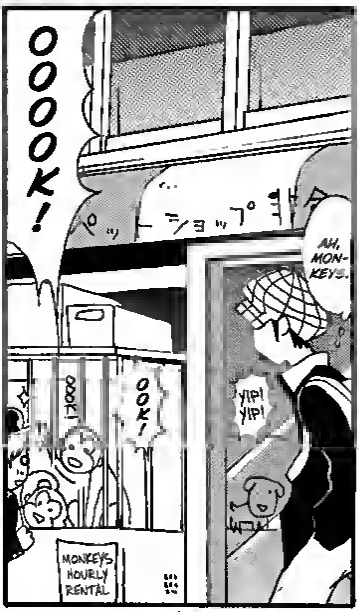
YOUKAICHI JERSEY CHOUSOKU = SUPER-COOL



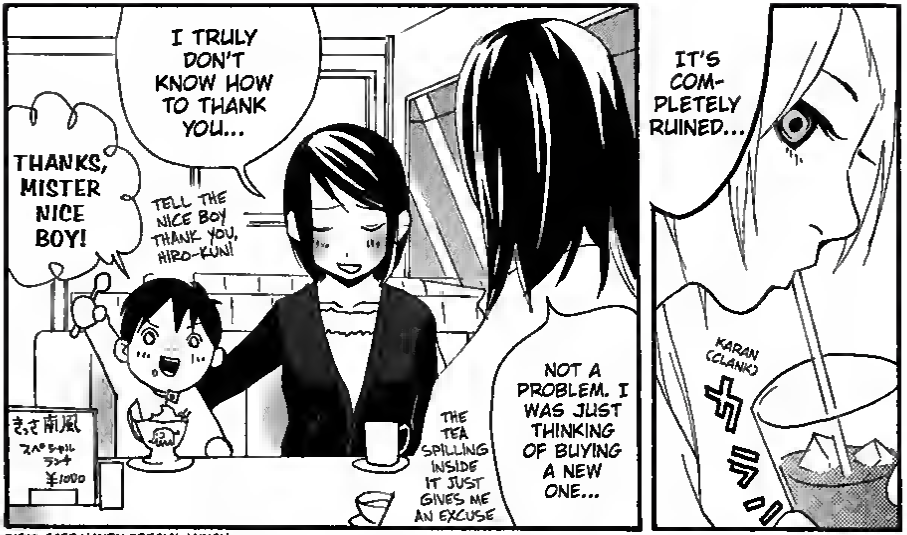

PLAN?
ACTUALLY, I THINK THIS PLAN MIGHT WORK TO OUR FAVOR.
WELL, IT'S NOT A VERY NEAT PLAN, BUT THE IDEA OF LEAVING NAGAHAMA-KUN WITH THE BALL UP IN ENEMY TERRITORY TO GET FOULED SEEMS TO BE WORKING SO FAR... ⓖ
YOU CALL THAT A... PLAN? ⓑ
IT'S CLEAR FROM ONE GLANCE THAT THEY'VE GOT MORE TALENT ON THEIR SIDE...
THIS MIGHT BE WHAT IT TAKES FOR US TO COMPETE...
草津
草津友
10
FORTUNATELY, WE DO HAVE MAIBARA-KUN AND HIS INCREDIBLY PRECISE KICKS ON OUR SIDE.
HMPH. WORTH-LESS MORTALS, ALL.
THE PROBLEM IS...

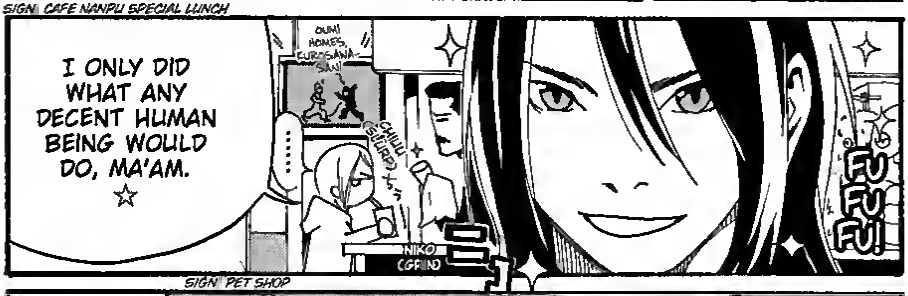


SIGN: LOANS



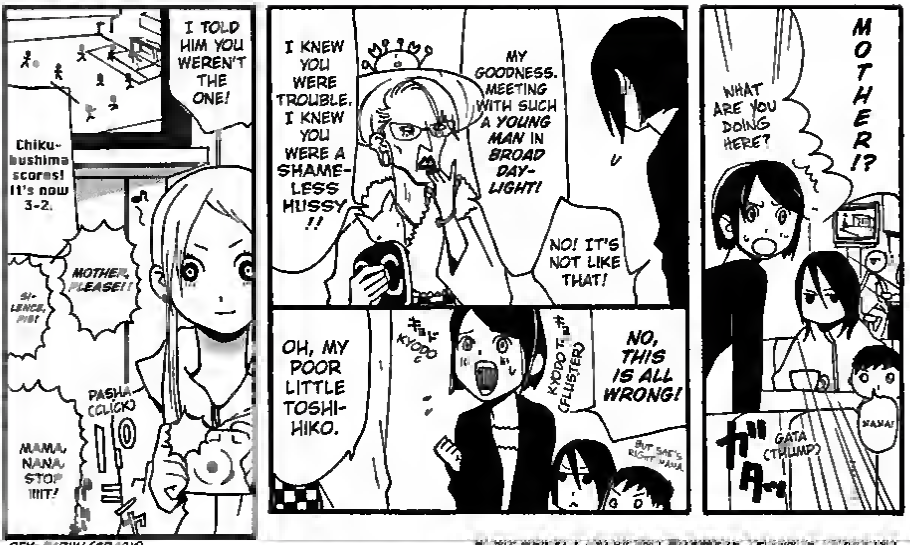
SIGN: PET SHOP


I TRULY DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU...
THANKS, MISTER NICE BOY!
TELL THE NICE BOY THANK YOU, HIRO-KUN!
NOT A PROBLEM. I WAS JUST THINKING OF BUYING A NEW ONE...
THE TEA SPILLING INSIDE IT JUST GIVES ME AN EXCUSE
IT'S COMPLETELY RUINED...
KARAN (CLANK)
SIGN: CAFE NANPU SPECIAL LUNCH

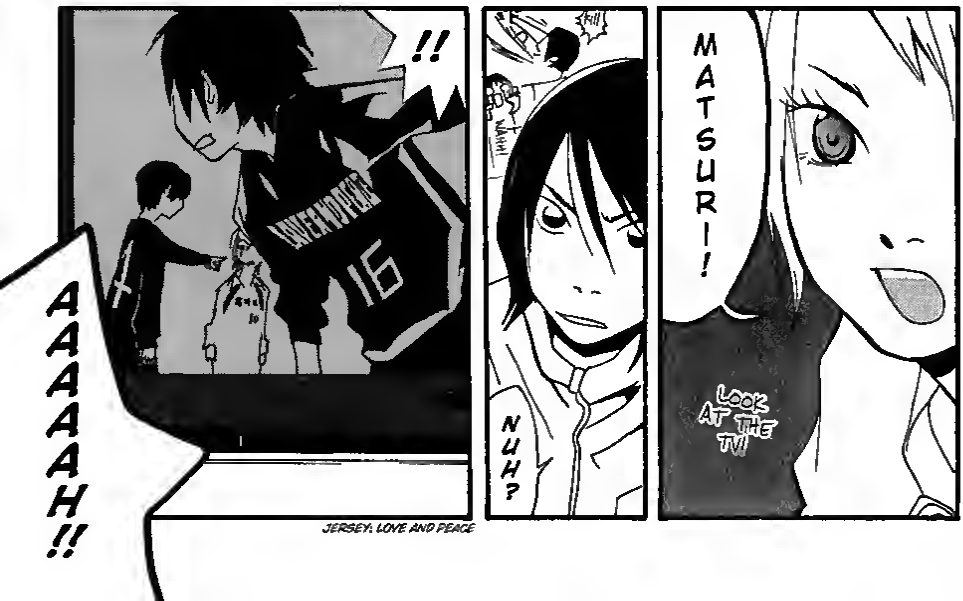

I ONLY DID WHAT ANY DECENT HUMAN BEING WOULD DO, MA'AM.
OUH! HOMES, KUROSAWA-SAN!
CHUU (SUCK)
NIKO (GRIN)
FU FU FU!

SIGN: PET SHOP
...DESPERATE FOR JUST ONE THING TO SAVE THE PRECIOUS LIFE IN MY HANDS...
KIKIKI (SCREECH)
I WAS INSTANTLY PUT IN A TRANCE...
SHUT UP, MONKEY
ALAS!!
OF COURSE! I HAVE BUT ONE CHOICE!!
IS THERE NOTHING I CAN DO!?
PING!

TORNADO!!
WAH!
BUN (WHOOSH)
HIRARI (SWISH)
BUWO (WWOOM)
GUSHA (CRUNCH)
*WHAT IS MATSURI TORNADO!? ONE OF MATSURI'S 108 SPECIAL ABILITIES, WHICH TAPS INTO THE POWER OF CENTRIFUGAL FORCE TO ESCAPE GREAT HARM I THINK
MATSURI!!!
GASHI (GRAB)
SIGN: FLOWERS
THAT WAS DANGEROUS (FOR ME)
JUST BARELY
ZA (SKID)
-PASHI (SNATCH)
NICE CATCH
WHEW
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME? A MARRIED MOTHER, HEART RACING... OVER A TEENAGER, NO LESS! EEEEK!
DOKI DOKI DOKI
W-WINSOME? OH, SIR...
GACHA (CLICK)
I SAW THAT MITSUKO-SAN
KAA (BLUSH)
DOKIN
DOKIN
YOU FLATTER ME...
MAMA, YOUR FACE IS RED
DOKI (PAUND)
FUFU
I'M JUST GLAD THE WORLD DIDN'T JUST LOSE YOUR WINSOME SMILE, MY DEAR
SIGN: BATHROOM


I TOLD HIM YOU WEREN'T THE ONE!
Chikubushima scores! It's now 3-2.
MOTHER, PLEASE!!
SILENCE, PIG!
PASHA (CLICK)
MAMA, NANA, STOP IIIT!
I KNEW YOU WERE TROUBLE. I KNEW YOU WERE A SHAMELESS HUSSY!!
MY GOODNESS. MEETING WITH SUCH A YOUNG MAN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!
NO! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
OH, MY POOR LITTLE TOSHIHIKO.
KYODO
KYODO T. CFLUSTERD
NO, THIS IS ALL WRONG!
BUT THAT'S RIGHT, NANA
MOTHER!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
GATA (THUMP)
NANA!

SFX: PARIIN (CRACK)



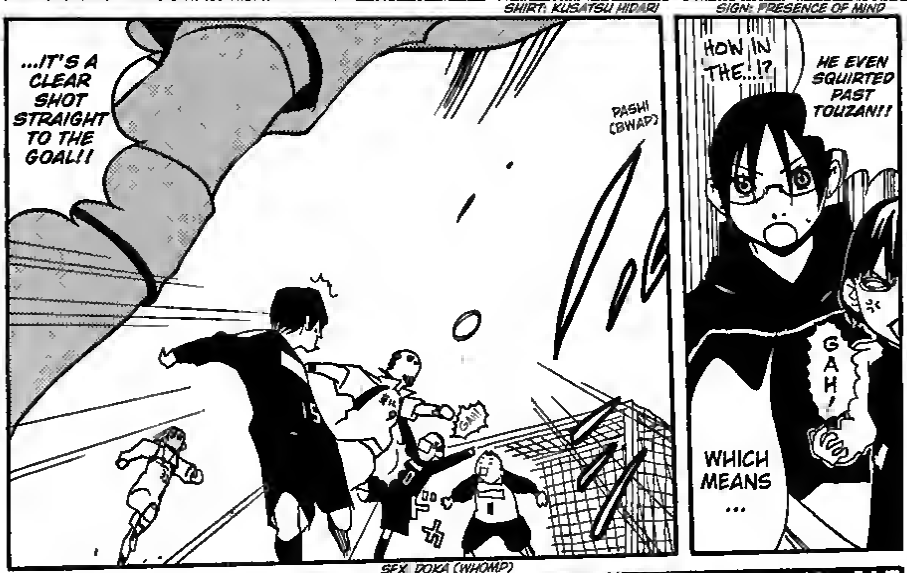
JERSEY: LOVE AND PEACE

YOUKAIGH! JERSEY- OCHAZUKE = GREEN TEA POURED OVER RICE

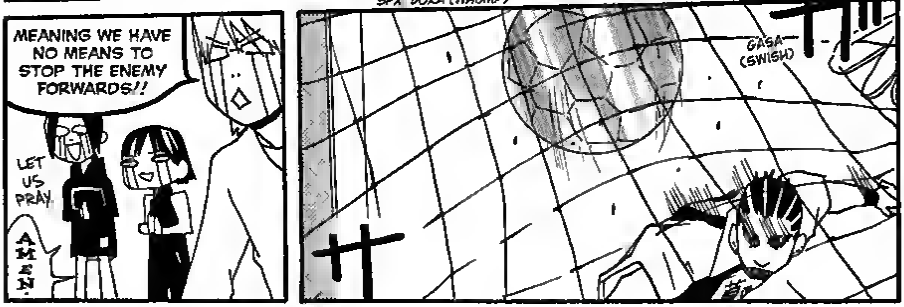
IT SEEMS LIKE THIS PLAN IS JUST TIRING ME OUT WHILE GIVING THE OTHER GUYS ALL THE GLORY...
HUFF!
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
.....
WAAH-
WAAH-
DAMN THAT #4...
津左
10
NICE DRIBBLING.
TON (TAP)
SHUT UP.
TON (TAP)

...AND YOUR LAME-ASS PRE-PLANNED PLAYS!!
THIS IS THE END OF YOUR GAMES!
HATA-SHOU !!
PECHIN (SLAP)
YOUR LAME-ASS SOCCER...
DA (DASH)
WE'RE THE ONES WHO ARE WINNING, DAMMIT!!
GROW UP
YOU LOSERS SURE WHINE A LOT...
CHIBASHIGERU
MAIBARA JERSEY. CHIBA SHIGERU (A WELL-KNOWN VOICE ACTOR)
PASU (PASS)
AAH!
TCH
BI
GA (WHACK)
BI (BING)
FIGURE IT OUT!

LOOK OUT! #7'S FREE WITH THE BALL!!
ID
SOME-ONE STOP HIM!!
Noooo!
OH NO!
PSYCHE
AZUCHI-SENPAI!!!
ZA (SHFF)
WHOA!!
!
...OUT!
ZU (ZZD)



SFX: DOKA (WHOMP)

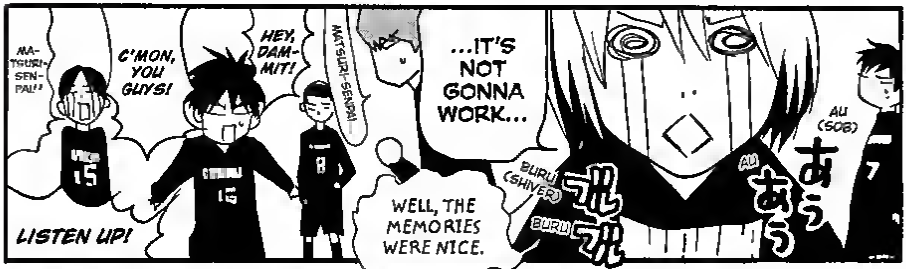


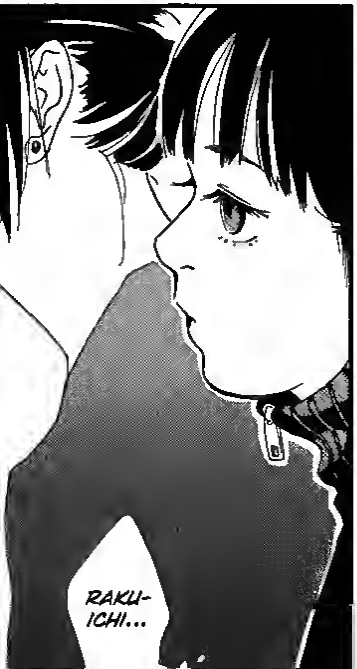
THEY HAVE THE PERFECT COMBINATION OF TEAMWORK AND SUPERB INDIVIDUAL PLAYS...
...KUSATSU HIDARI IS JUST PLAIN GOOD, NO BONES ABOUT IT!
NICE ONE, OH-CHAN.
Y-YEAH!
NICE SHOT.
NAAH!
NAAH!
(HUFF)
SCREW THIS!
AUGH...
...THE REST OF OUR DEFENSE IS LIKE A SIEVE.
NO WAY TO BEAT 'EM.
AND IF THEY TAKE OUT MAIBARA'S PASSING AND TOUZAN'S POSITIONING...
IT'S A SHOOT-OUT... IN A WAY.
...AND IT'S 6-4.
ZUUN (GLOOM)
THIRTY-SEVEN MINUTES INTO THE FIRST HALF...
CHINOUSHIMA
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GUYS DOING!?

QUIT PINNING YOUR HOPES ON SOMEONE WHO ISN'T EVEN HERE!!
WHY DON'T YOU ACTUALLY TRY ACCOM-PLISHING SOMETHING THROUGH YOUR OWN POWER!?

JERSEY, CHIKARANOCHI = POWERFUL

DODON (BOOOM)
ZUUUN (DOOM)
GET ON WITH IT
草津左
7
10
32
BUT...


MA-TSURI-SEN-PAI!?
C'MON, YOU GUYS!
HEY, DAM-MIT!
MATSURI-SENPAI
...IT'S NOT GONNA WORK...
AU (SOB)
AU
BURU (SHIVER)
BURU
LISTEN UP!
WELL, THE MEMORIES WERE NICE.


RAKU-ICHI...

PII (TWEET)
YOU CAN ALL GO TO HELL.

AHAHAHA...
IS R-RAKUICHI TRYING TO RALLY THE REST OF THE TEAM!?
THAT'S SO WEIRD!

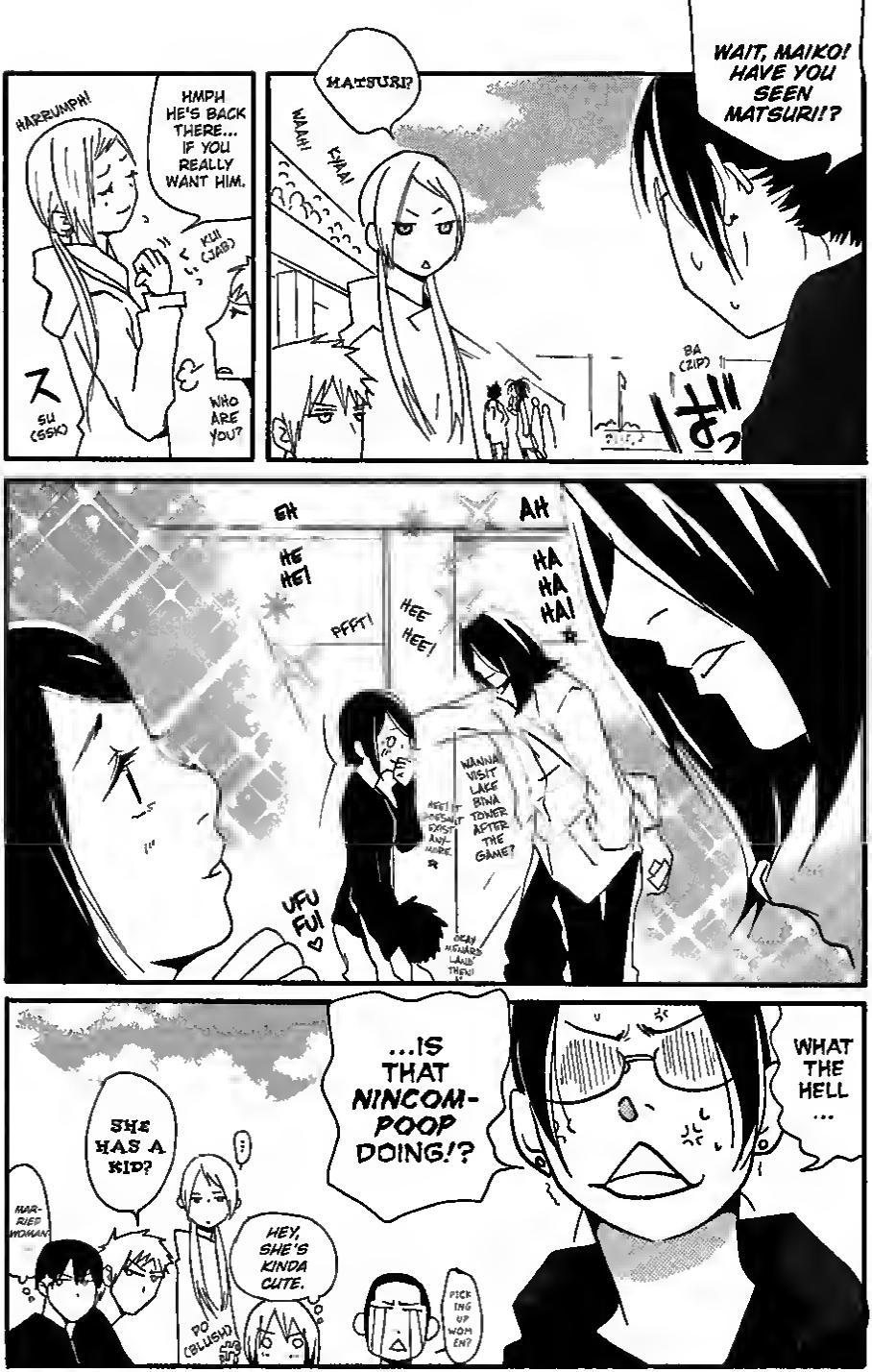
DON'T THINK YOU CAN KEEP USING THE SAME TRICK OVER AND OVER!
IT'S #16 AGAIN ...!!
CHIKUSHO!
16
PASHI (SNATCH)
GA (WHACK)
OH, SHUT UP!!
RAKU-ICHI!
THAT'S A CARD! GIVE HIM A CARD!!
THE RED KIND!
DOGA (WHAM)
NO!!!
CRAP!!
ZUZA (SLIDE)

!
NAGA-HAMA-KUN!?
HEY, YOU OKAY!?
NAAA~
YELLOW CARD!
AWW, SHUCKS.
DAMMIT, IBUKI!!
IS HE HURT?
OH NO.
?
YOU WERE PLAYING DEAD?
I'M TOTALLY FINE!
READY AND RARIN' TO GO!
BYOOON (BOIIING)

SHUT UPS! NO GOALS THIS TIME, THIS TIME!!
YOU GOTTA STOP HEEM THEES TIME, MAGGIE-CHAN.
FU FU FU
COVER FARTHER LEFT!
AND YOU DONE NOTHING THIS WHOLE GAME!
ZAAH!
ZAAH!
KYAAA!
ZAAH!
MAIBARA-KUUUN!
ZAN (SZSHH)
OHHH!
IHKAISHIMA
4
WHOAAA! IT'S HIM AGAIN!!
BASA (THWLIP)
BACHI (BING)
GAGON (BWONK)
DO (BAM)
NO WAYS!!
HNAAH!!
草津左
33

WATCH OUT, AZUCHI. THE KID'S GETTING WORN OUT.
AAAH—
NO, THAT SUCKED.
NICE ONE.
4
CHIBUSHI
THE KEEPER TOUCHED IT.
THIS GUY IS JUST PLAIN RIDICULOUS.
HE WON'T LAST THROUGH THE SECOND HALF AT THIS RATE.
TRUE ...
HOWEVER!
PII (PWEET)
WELL, WE NEED TO AT LEAST MAKE UP THIS DEFICIT IN THE FEW MINUTES WE HAVE LEFT IN THE HALF...

FAREWELL, SWEET YOUTH...
ZUUUN (GLOOM)
IN A MERE TWO MINUTES, CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH WOULD ALREADY ALLOW THAT GOAL TO BE SCORED BACK!!
I'LL SAY IT AGAIN: WE'RE SCREWED!!
I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT ISN'T WORTH THE KIND OF DESPAIR YOU'RE OOZING RIGHT NOW!!
HEY, FOOLS! YOU'VE ALREADY SCORED FIVE FREAKIN' GOALS AGAINST KUSATSU HIDARI, OF ALL TEAMS!!
AHH, WHAT A SALTY, SOGGY BUNCH YOU ARE.
GOOD GRIEF.
HOW DID SHE GET IN HERE?
MAIKO-SENPAI!!
7-5 IN THE FIRST HALF? WHAT A MESS OF A GAME...
HMM?
SEVEN GOALS ALLOWED IN FORTY MINUTES ...
WE'RE LOOKING AT DOUBLE DIGITS, FOR SURE.
HEY!
AND SUNSET'S TRYING TO CHEER US UP


HMPH HE'S BACK THERE... IF YOU REALLY WANT HIM.
HARRUMPH!
KUI (JAB)
SU (GSK)
WHO ARE YOU?
MATSURI?
WAAH!
EHAA!
WAIT, MAIKO! HAVE YOU SEEN MATSURI!?
BA (ZIP)
GH
AH
HE HE!
PFFT!
HEE HEE!
HA HA HA!
WANNA VISIT LAKE BIWA TOWER AFTER THE GAME?
HEE! IT DOESN'T EXIST ANYMORE.
OKAY NEVERS LAND THEN!
SUU♡
...IS THAT NINCOM-POOP DOING!?
WHAT THE HELL ...
SHE HAS A KID?
HARIEF WOMAN
PO (BLUSH)
HEY, SHE'S KINDA CUTE.
PICKING UP WOMEN?

*O L: THUNDER (1991)- AN OBSCURE ONE-VOLUME COMEDY MANGA

HE SUDDENLY SAW HIS WIFE, MITSUKO (32), AND SON, HIIRO (5), WHO HE HAD ASSUMED WERE AT HOME WATCHING THE GAME ON TV, HAVING A BALL WITH A LONG-HAIRED TEENAGE BOY!!

MITSU-KO!!

T-TOSHI-HIKO...

WH-WHO THE HELL IS THAT!?

TOSHIHIKO HAD FINALLY REALIZED HIS DREAM WHEN GIVEN THE JOB OF COACH AT SOCCER POWERHOUSE KUSATSU HIDARI HIGH SCHOOL: THE TEAM WAS IN THE PREFECTURAL FINAL...BUT AT HALFTIME, TRAGEDY STRUCK.

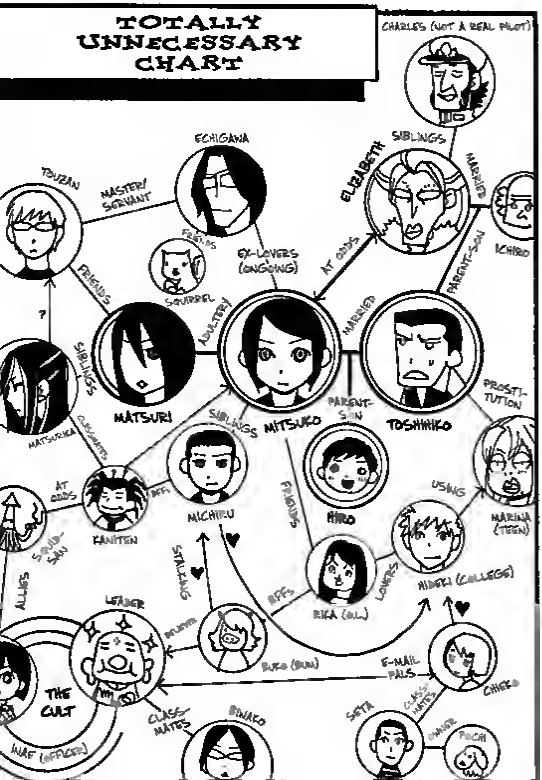
→ TOSHIHIKO (37)

PREVIOUS COACH

LET GO AFTER STRUGGLING AGAINST A WEAKER OPPONENT TOSHIHIKO'S RESEMBLANCE TO HIM IS A FIGMENT OF YOUR IMAGINATION.

THE STORY THUS FAR...

TOTALLY UNNECESSARY CHART



ALL IT MEANS IS THAT I'M A WOMAN, AND I HAVE...

...

...NEEDS.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

GIGOLO?

!!?

SFX: GAAAN (SHOCK)

BUT, PUTTING ALL THAT ASIDE...

SO..DID YOU FEEL ANY DREAMS?

I...I CAN'T TELL!!

CAN'T!!

IN THE BEGINNING, I THOUGHT THAT IF I DID A SOCCER STORY, I MIGHT MANAGE TO TAKE IT IN A RELATIVELY REALISTIC DIRECTION. LIKE, MAYBE NOBODY ON THE TEAM WOULD BE ATTEMPTING TO PLAY PRO SOCCER, OR THEY COULDN'T SCRAPE TOGETHER ENOUGH PLAYERS ON THE DAY OF THE GAME AND WOULD NEED TO BORROW SOME FROM THE OPPONENT, OR THEY WOULDN'T HAVE ANY GOOD PLAYERS, OR WOULD ALWAYS LOSE IN THE FIRST OR SECOND ROUND. OR THEY'D ALWAYS MESS UP ON CENTERING THE BALL, OR WOULD NEVER GET ANY BETTER BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T TRY HARD ENOUGH, AND SO ON...

BUT THEN MY EDITOR HAD A WORD WITH ME.

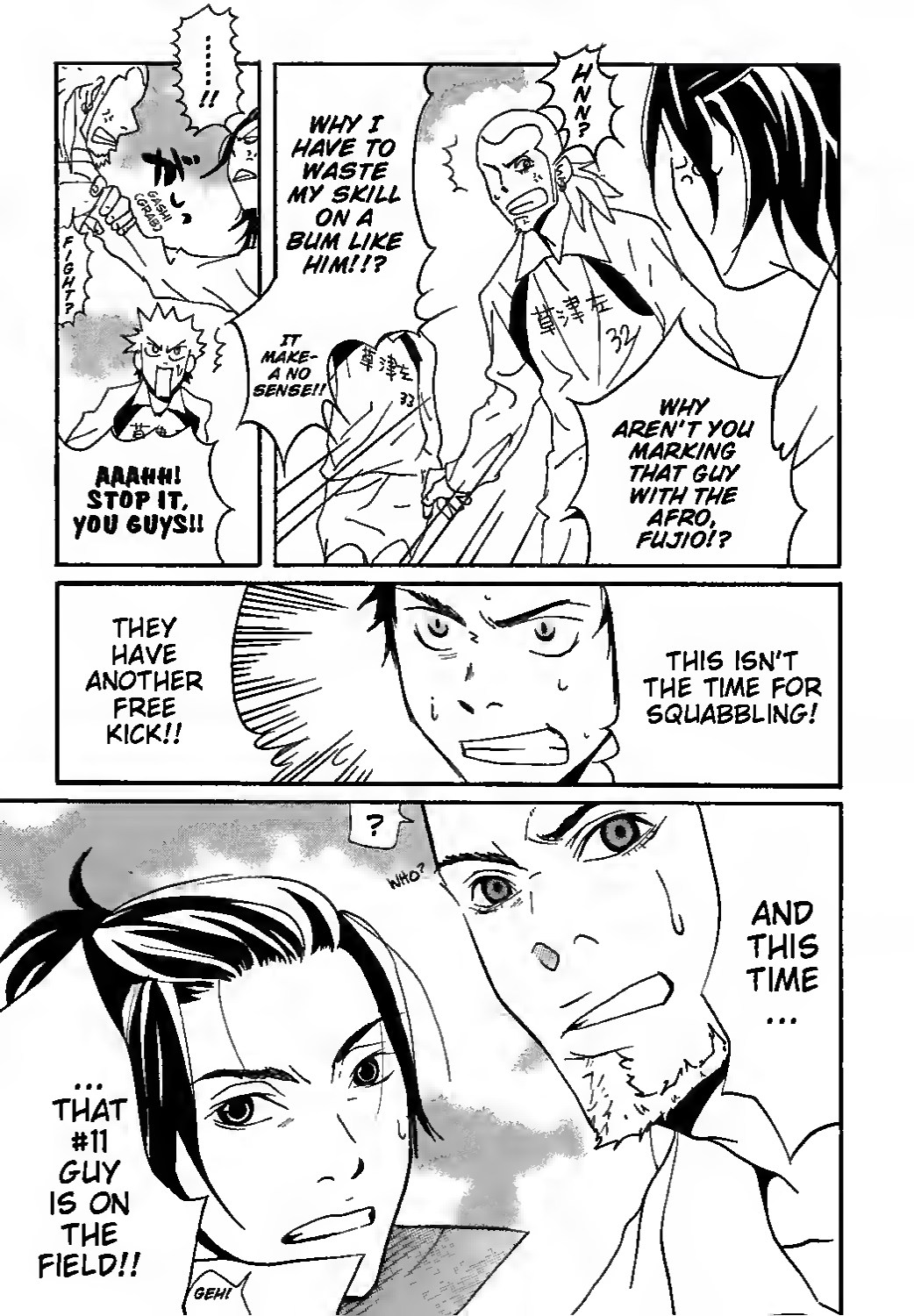
"TRY TO INFUSE A BIT OF DREAMS IN THERE."

OUT OF THE VAULT FOR THE FINAL VOLUME! I CAN'T BELIEVE I WAS CONSIDERING THIS!

SCRAPPED IDEAS ②

MATSUR!
PISHI (JAB)
SU (SWISH)
I ASSUME YOU'RE GONNA MAKE UP FOR ALL THE TIME YOU MISSED!!
IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF, MY CHARMS ARE AS INFINITE AS THE COSMOS.
THAT MAKES NO SENSE.
OF COURSE!
HEH.
BEGINS.
TON (TMP)
PII (PWEET)
SEC-OND HALF.

LOOK AT COACH!
HE'S DEAD!
ZULIN (GLOOM)
LOOK, THAT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER NOW. LET'S JUST STOP THE UGLY BACK-AND-FORTH SCORING BARRAGE FROM THE FIRST HALF!!
RIGHT!!
GET YOUR HEADS IN THE GAME!!
DOGA (THWAK)
PWEEE! (FOUL)
BON (BOMP)
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOU MORON!?
THIS IS JUST LIKE THE FIRST HALF!

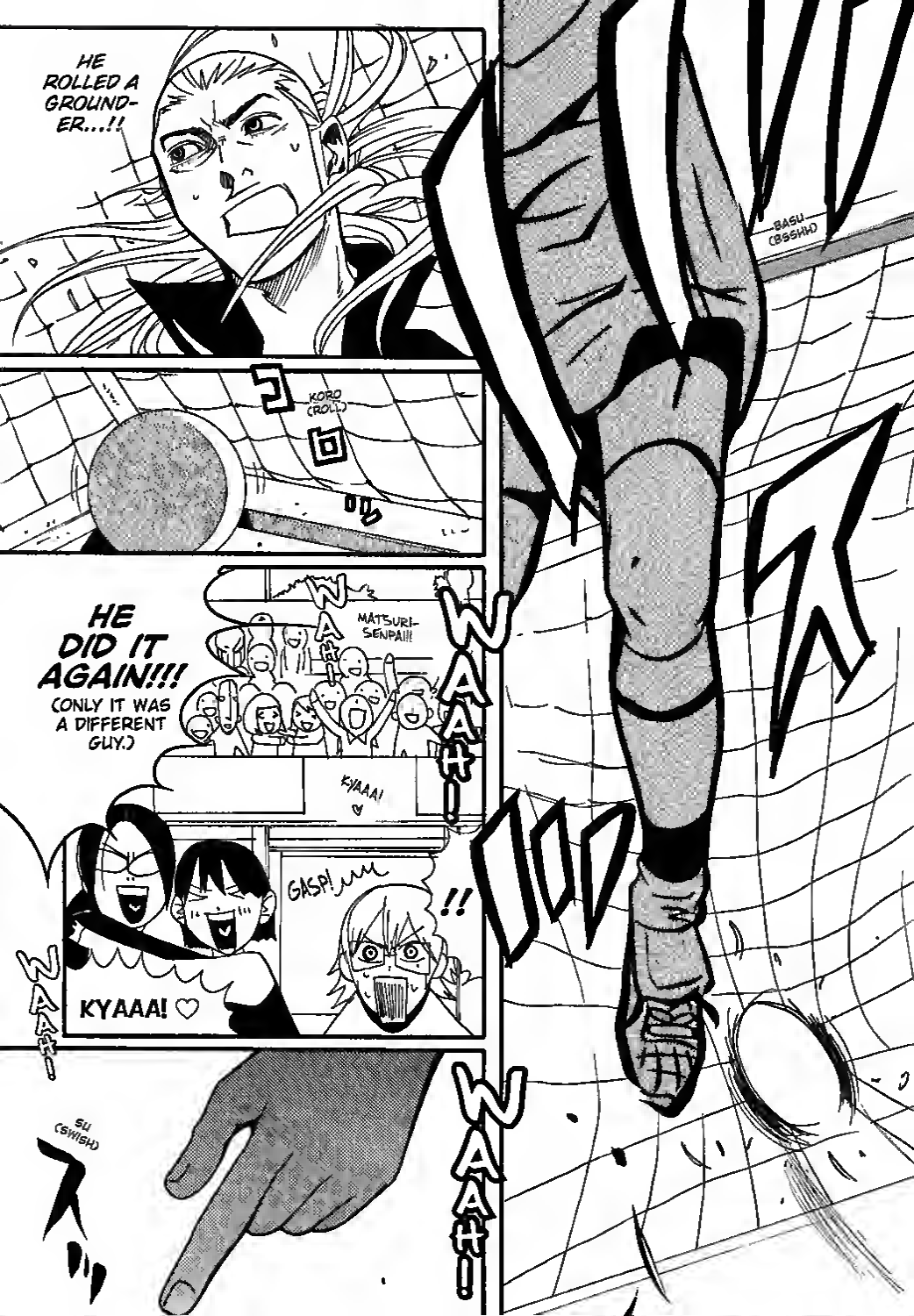

!!
GASHI (GRAB)
FIGHT?
AAAHH! STOP IT, YOU GUYS!!
IT MAKE-A NO SENSE!!
WHY I HAVE TO WASTE MY SKILL ON A BUM LIKE HIM!!?
HNN?
WHY AREN'T YOU MARKING THAT GUY WITH THE AFRO, FUJIO!?
THEY HAVE ANOTHER FREE KICK!!
THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR SQUABBLING!
?
WHO?
AND THIS TIME ...
... THAT #11 GUY IS ON THE FIELD!!
GEH!

WAAH!
DON (BOOM)
WAAH!
MATSURI-SENPAI!
WAAH!
WHOOO!!
MAIBARA-KUN!
IT'S ANOTHER FREE KICK COMING UP!!!!
WAAH!
PIRI (CHRISTIE)
PIRI
SHUT UP YOU FACE!!
WHAT!?
HEY, MAGGIE.
10
SFX: GILI (PINCH)
SFX: PIKU (TWITCH)
YHEOW!!
GRR.
LISTEN UP!
MAKE IT FIVE IN A ROW!!
WAAH!
WAAH!
WAAH!
C'MON!
GOOO!
THIS IS COMPLETELY ABSURD...
MAIBARA-SENPAI, I WUB YOUUU!

HIS LEFT FOOT'S AT LEAST AS STRONG AS #4'S RIGHT, IF NOT MORESO. KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN.
NO WAYS!
REALLY!?
WHAT YOU SAY!!?
SEE THAT #11, WITH THE TOWEL ON HIS HEAD?
...HAVE SUCH MANY AMAZING PLAYERS!?
DON'T WORRY, MAGGIE. LEAVE THIS TO BROTHERS
THIS IS NUTS
THIS MAKE NO SENSE. HOW THIS TINY TOWN IN JAPANESE COUNTRYSIDE...
RIGHT ...
...OR LEFT!?
TWENTY-FIVE YARDS IN FRONT OF GOAL...
RAAH!
RAAH!
RAAH!
31
5

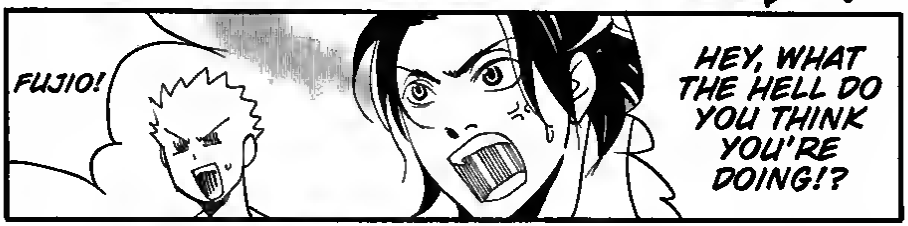
HE ROLLED A GROUND-ER...!!
KORO (ROLL)
HE DID IT AGAIN!!!
(ONLY IT WAS A DIFFERENT GUY.)
MATSURI-SENPAI!!!
KYAAA!
GASP!
KYAAA! ♡
SU (SWISH)
WAAH!
!!
WAAH!
BASU (BSSHH)
HE GOES RIGHT!
I KNEW IT...
RIGHT OUT-SIDE!?
KUWA (GLARE)
ZA (ZSHH)
NO, LEFT! IT'S #11!
TOO LATE!
DO (DOMM)

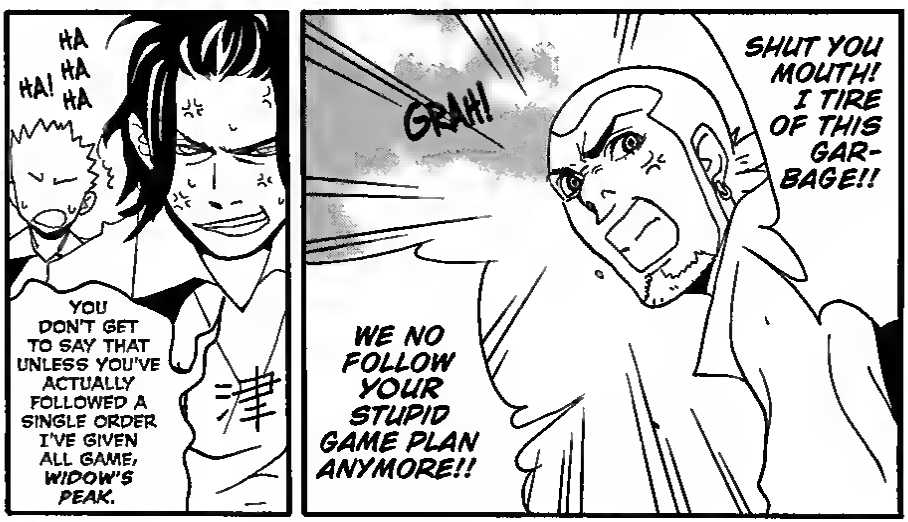
I KNEW IT...
HE GOES RIGHT!
RIGHT OUTSIDE!?
KUWA (GLARE)
ZA (ZSHK)
NO, LEFT! IT'S #11!
TOO LATE!
DO COMMO


HE ROLLED A GROUNDER...!!
KORO (ROLL)
BASU (BSSHH)
HE DID IT AGAIN!!!
(ONLY IT WAS A DIFFERENT GUY.)
WAAA!!
MATSURI-SENPAI!!!
KYAAA!
GASP!
!!
KYAAA! ♡
SU (SWISH)

GOOOOOAL!!
WAAH!
GENIUS CAPTAIN AND HANDSOME LEADER, MATSURI HIKIYAMA, COMES INTO THE GAME IN THE SECOND HALF AND SCORES A BEAUTY OF A GOAL!!
CHIKARAJIN
6
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SAY THAT.
THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS.
WAAH!
YES!
FU FU FU
SFX: GU (CLENCH)
TH-THAT JUST LUCKY!
DON'T CRIES, MAGGIE.
I SUCK ...
WAAH!
SFX: MESO (WEEP) MESO
T-
NGRRAH!
GRR!
草津左
草津右
T-
T-
TOSHIKIIIII...!!
YOU LOOK AWFUL, MY BROTHERS.
!!
SU (SIGH)

PII (PWEEET)
COCKY LITTLE BRAT!!
STUPID LITTLE TOSHIKI!! STUPID LITTLE TOSHIKI!!!
NGAAH!!
RRRAH!
DAN (WHOMP)

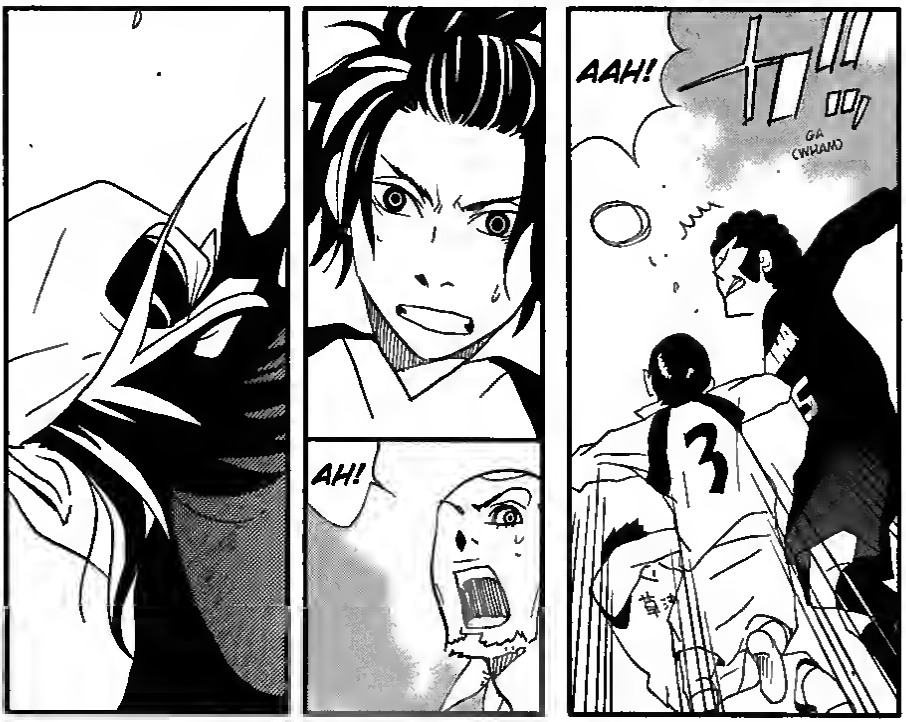

FUJIO!
HEY, WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?


HA HA HA! HA HA
YOU DON'T GET TO SAY THAT UNLESS YOU'VE ACTUALLY FOLLOWED A SINGLE ORDER I'VE GIVEN ALL GAME, WIDOW'S PEAK.
GRAH!
SHUT YOU MOUTH! I TIRE OF THIS GAR-BAGE!!
WE NO FOLLOW YOUR STUPID GAME PLAN ANYMORE!!

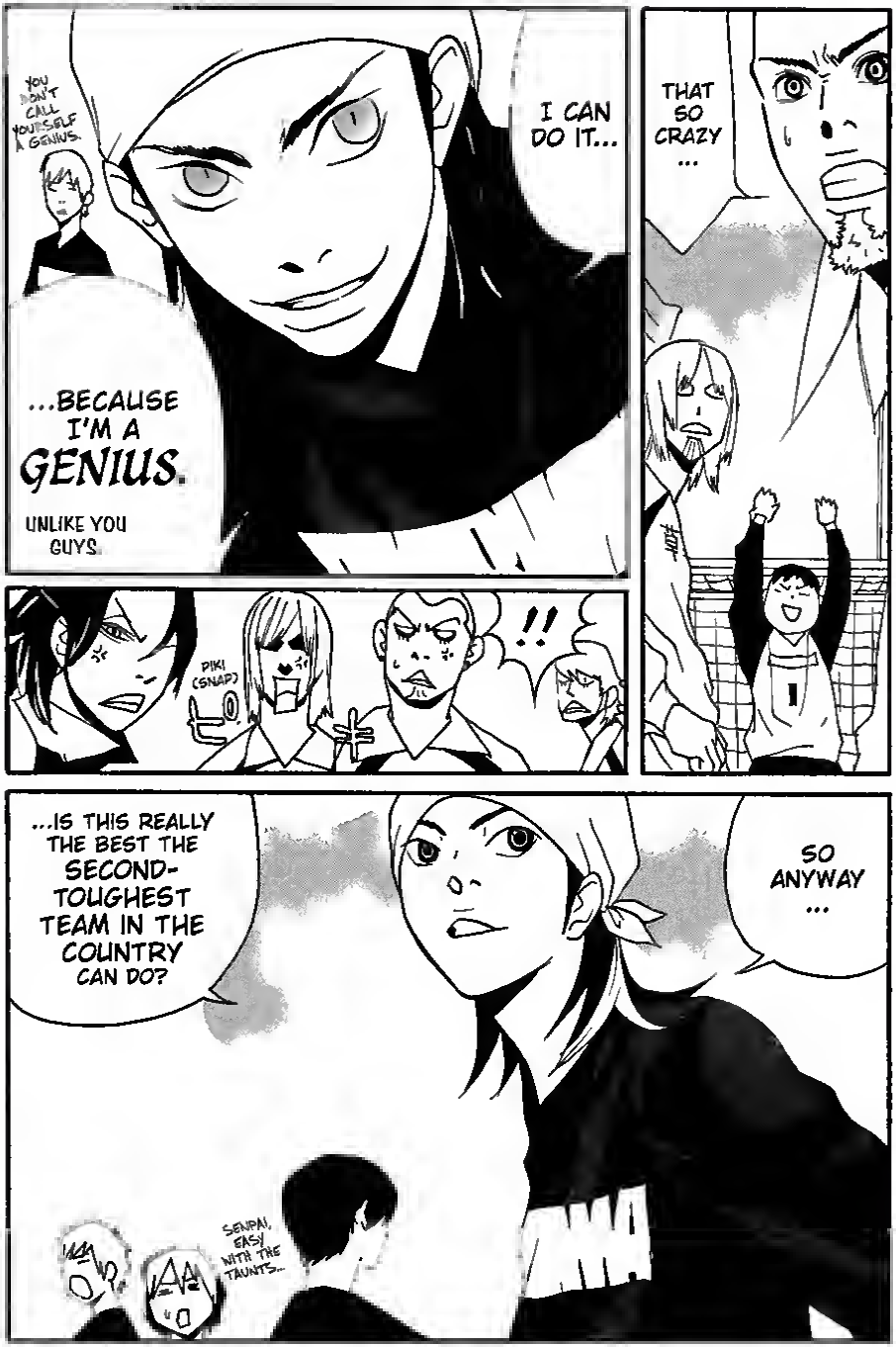
BA (CHSH)
SHUT UP! TAKE-A THIS!
BRAZIL-IAN STYLE!!
PASHI (SNATCH)
ENOUGH OF THIS!
I TIRED OF THIS STOOPID FUTEBOL TO HIGH-PASS IN FRONT OF GOAL!
DID YOU SEE HOW BRAZILIAN THAT WAS!?
WHOA!
HYO! (ZWIP)
WE USE PLAY WITH IMAGINA-TION!!
TO (TOK)
!?
CRAZY PASS-WORK!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
GWAAAH!
WE SHOW YOU GRACEFUL TECHNIQUE AND POWERFUL SKILL!

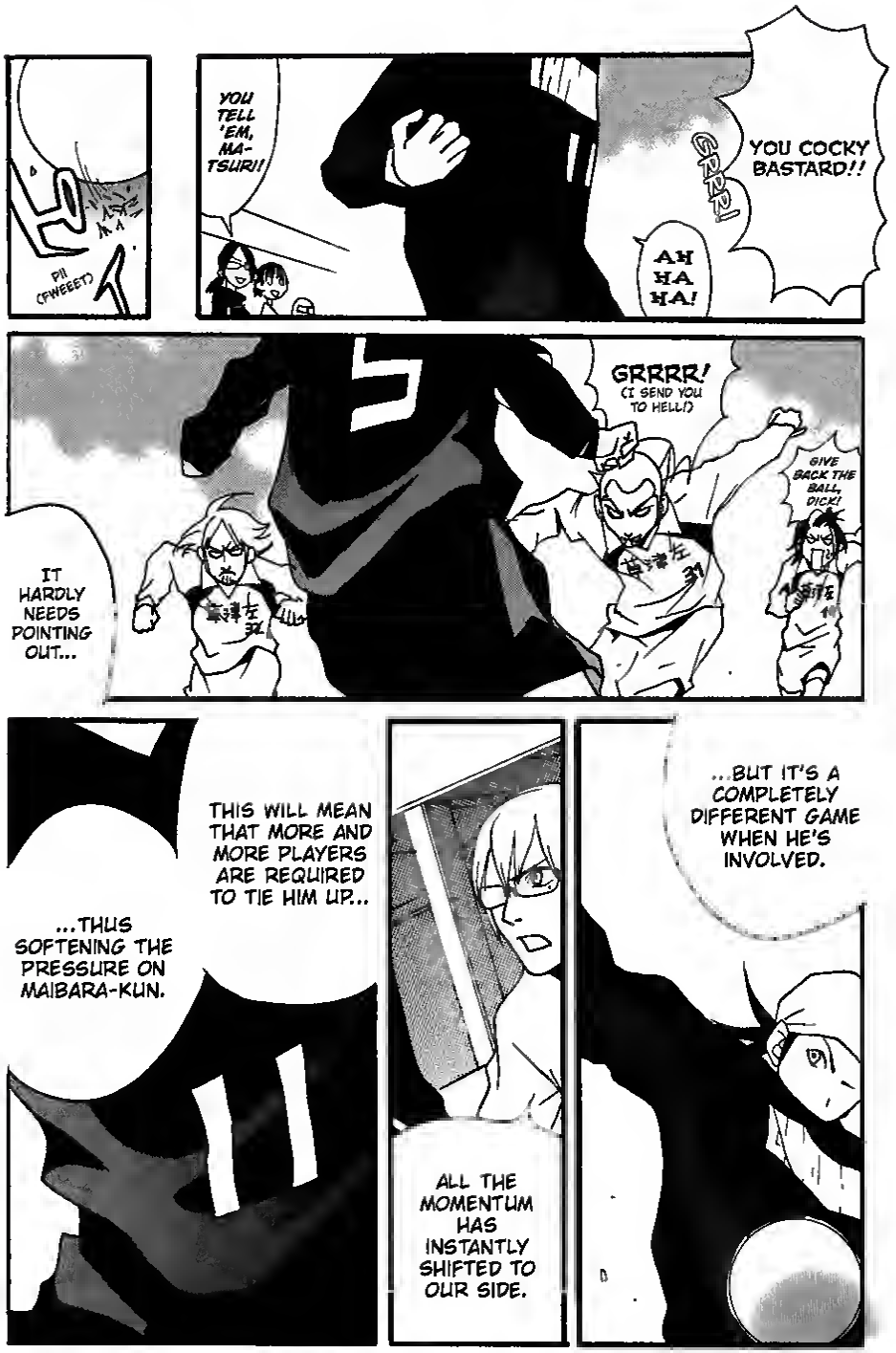
!!
AZUCHI-SENPAI!
GA (WHACK)
YOU'RE WASTING...
...TOO MUCH TIME ON THE ATTACK!
BISHI (BWAM)
PASHI (SNATCH)

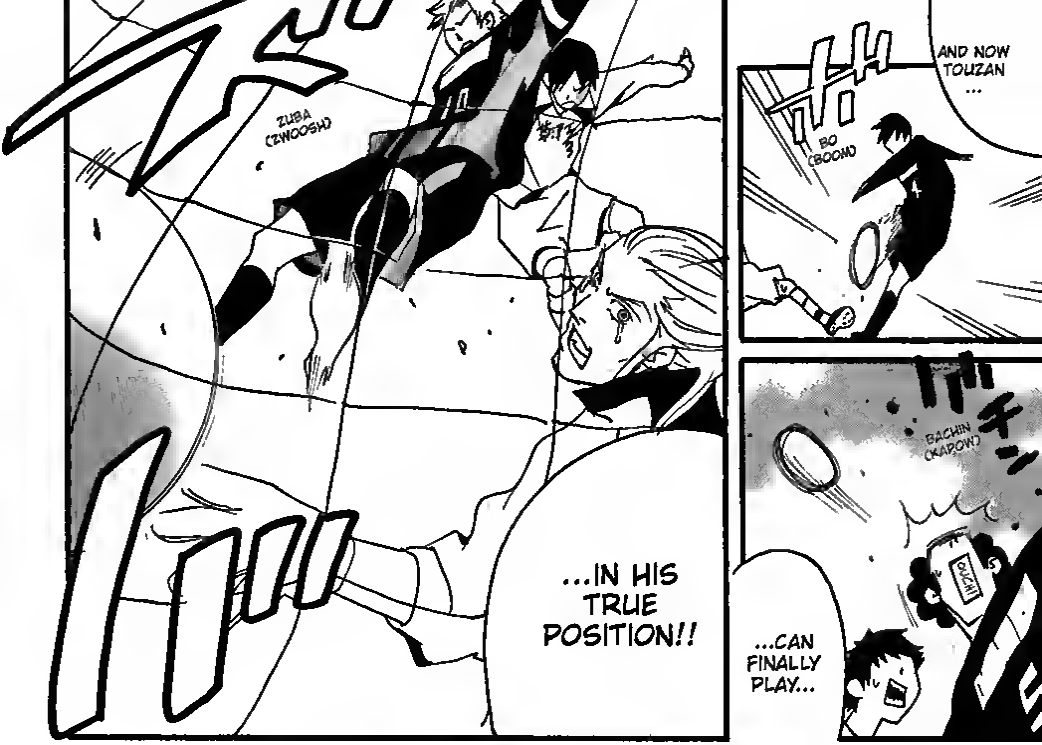
IT'S NUMBER FOUR!!
WHOA, HOLD ON!
KEEP THE BALL FOR A SEC!

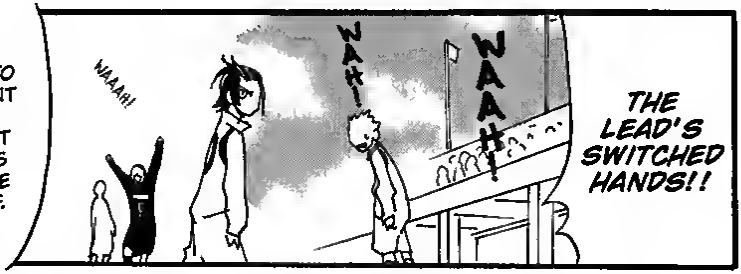

AAH!
AH!

ORYAAAH!!!
CHIKARA!!!
!!?
ZUBASA (SWISHERS)
AH
AN UNBELIEVABLE SURGE TO TIE THE GAME, ONLY SEVEN MINUTES INTO THE SECOND HALF! THIS IS A MIRACLE! THE WORK OF A GENIUS!! LET US ALL PRAISE THE NAME OF MATSURI HIKIYAMA!!!
NAAH!
NAAH!
IT'S ALL TIED UP!!
WHOOO!
IF I SAY SO MYSELF
YOU DON'T TALK ABOUT YOURSELF LIKE THAT
I WUV YOU MATSURI SENPAI! ★
WON!

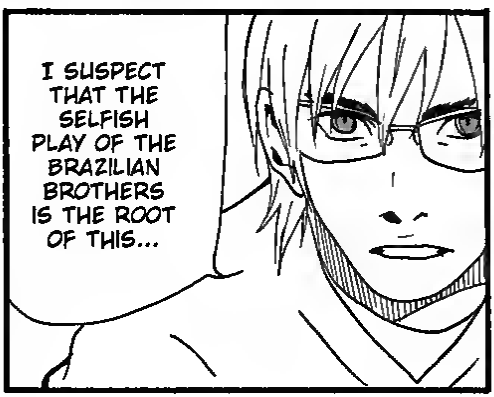

YOU DON'T CALL YOURSELF A GENIUS.
I CAN DO IT...
...BECAUSE I'M A GENIUS.
UNLIKE YOU GUYS.
THAT SO CRAZY ...
PIKI (SNAP)
!!
...IS THIS REALLY THE BEST THE SECOND-TOUGHEST TEAM IN THE COUNTRY CAN DO?
SO ANYWAY ...
SENPAI, EASY WITH THE TAUNTS...


PII (PWEEET)
YOU TELL 'EM, MA-TSURI!
GASHI
YOU COCKY BASTARD!!
AH HA HA!
GRRRR! (I SEND YOU TO HELL!)
GIVE BACK THE BALL, DICK!
IT HARDLY NEEDS POINTING OUT...
THIS WILL MEAN THAT MORE AND MORE PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO TIE HIM UP...
...THUS SOFTENING THE PRESSURE ON MAIBARA-KUN.
ALL THE MOMENTUM HAS INSTANTLY SHIFTED TO OUR SIDE.
...BUT IT'S A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT GAME WHEN HE'S INVOLVED.


ZUBA (ZWOOSH)
...IN HIS TRUE POSITION!!
AND NOW TOUZAN ...
BO (BOOM)
BACHIN (KAPOW)
...CAN FINALLY PLAY...

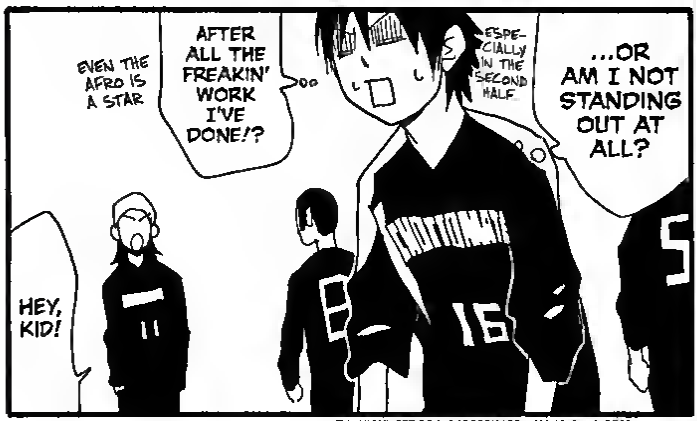

BUT I HAVE TO WONDER ABOUT THE AWFUL BALANCE THAT KUSATSU HAS SHOWN IN THE SECOND HALF.
WAAAH!
WAH!
WAAH!
THE LEAD'S SWITCHED HANDS!!

OHH! AZUCHI-SENPAI!
IT MIGHT BE UNDER-HANDED, BUT WE SHOULD PROBABLY EXPLOIT THAT... WHY ISN'T ANYONE LISTENING TO ME?
SHIKU (SOB)
SHIKU
AZUCHI-SENPAI!
AZUCHI-SENPAI!


I SUSPECT THAT THE SELFISH PLAY OF THE BRAZILIAN BROTHERS IS THE ROOT OF THIS...

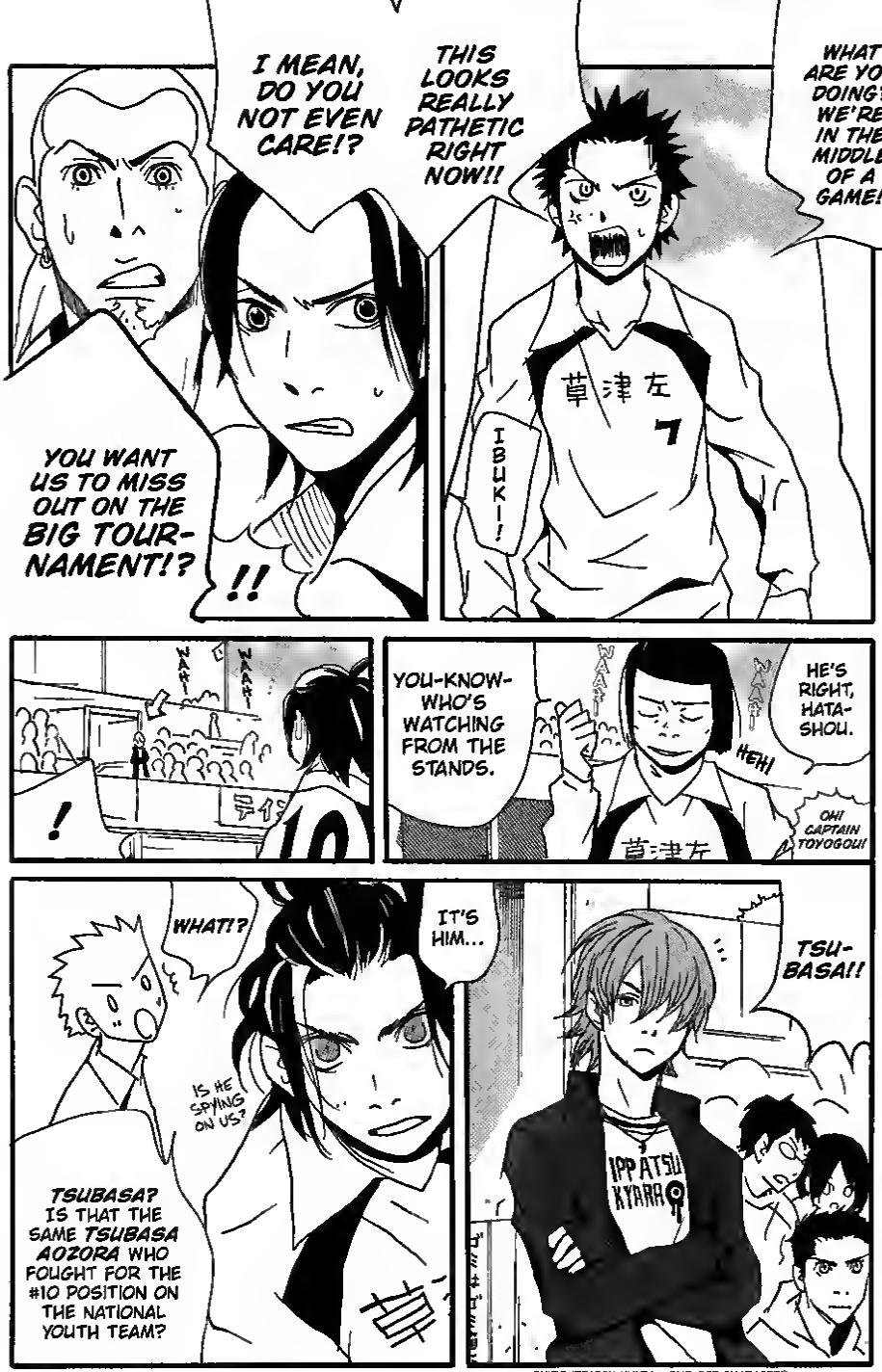
BASH (BONK)
PII (PWEEET)
AZUCHI SENPAI
A HAT TRICK IN THE SPAN OF TEN FREAKIN' MINUTES!! WHO IS THAT GUY!?
SERIOUSLY!
YES!
ワァー
ワァー
WHOAAA! NOW THEY'RE JUST POURING IT ON!!
NINE GOALS ALLOWED
SCORING SEVEN GOALS IS ONE THING, BUT ALLOWING NINE!!?
ワァー
ワァー
WAAH! WAAH!
WAAH!
ZAWA
ZAWA (MURMUR)
HOLY SHIT!
...THIS WAS THE SECOND-BEST SCHOOL IN THE NATION LAST YEAR!
THE KUSATSU HIDARI TEAM THAT HADN'T ALLOWED A GOAL ALL TOURNAMENT UNTIL NOW!
SIGN: CHAMPIONS, KUSATSU HIDARI P.T.A.

JERSIES: TOUZAN: KONNICHIWA • HELLO. MATSURI: HANSOKU • #AGAINST THE RULES. ANTONIO: CHIKARAMOCHI • POWERFUL



RAKUICHI JERSEY: CHOTTOMATE • HANG ON A SEC!

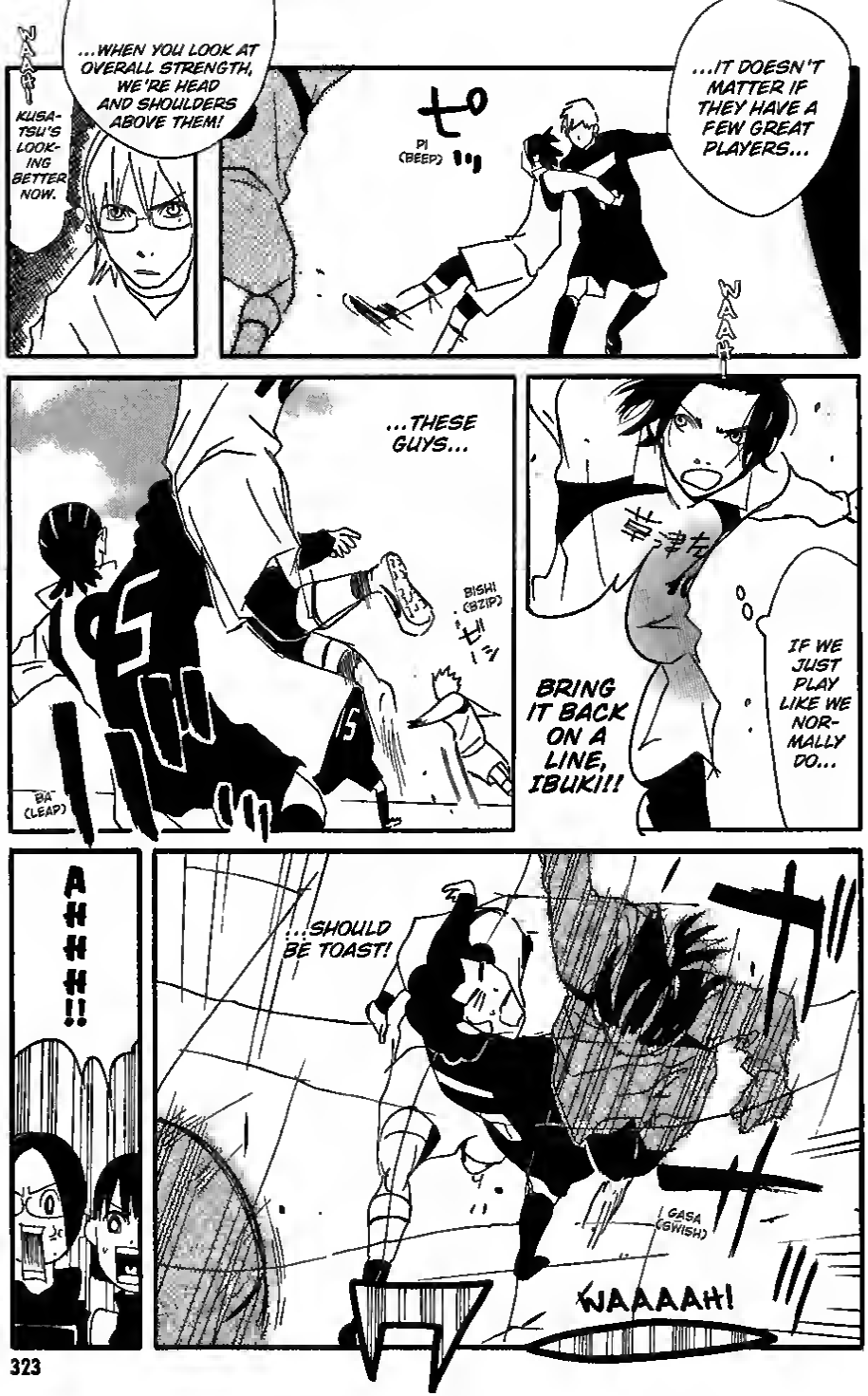
WELL, ALL RIGHTY. SINCE I FEEL SO SORRY FOR YA, HERE'S A BRILLIANT STRATEGY TO HELP YOU OUT!
HEY KID, YOU LOOK HELLA BUSTED!
WHAT!? I'M NOT TIRED AT ALL!!
A STRATE-GYYYY?
WHAT!?
YOU PICK FIGHT WITH ME? AHH!?
WAKE UP, MORON!
IN FACT, YOU SHOULD JUST FOLLOW MY DIREC-TIONS.
HATA-SHOU!
GASHI (GRAB)
SHOVE IT UP YOUR ASS, BALDY.
WHAT!?
YOU GUYS NEED TO KNOCK IT OFF!!

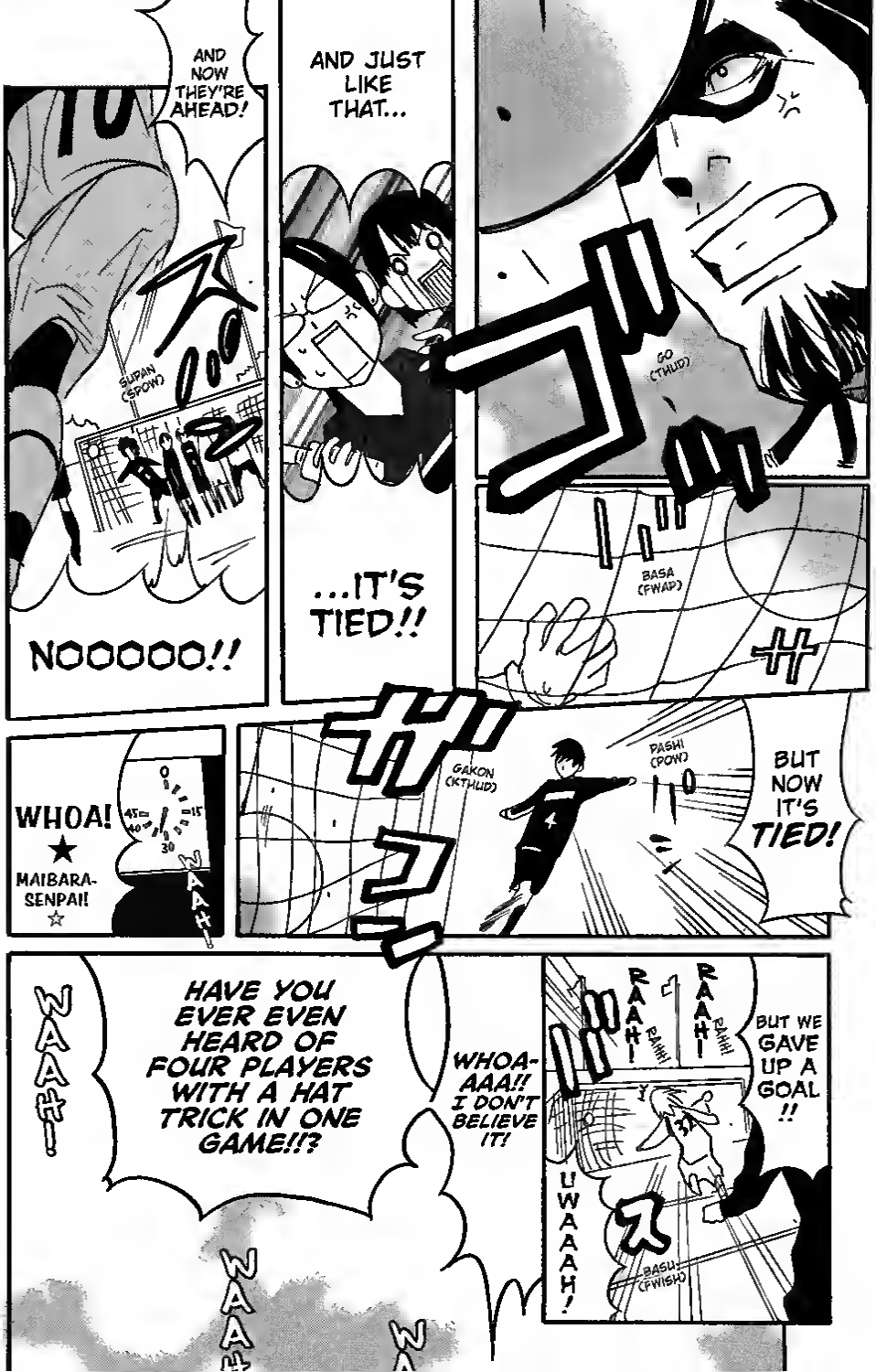


SHIRT: IPPATSU KYARA = ONE-OFF CHARACTER

YOU KNOW WHAT? I HATE YOU GUYS, AND I HATE YOUR USELESS PRIDE.
BUT!
GIRORI (GLARE)
FUJIO!
GU (GRAB)
AH.
GA (YANK)
PINYOROOO (FWEE)
I HATE LOSING EVEN MORE!!
10
THEN FOLLOW MY ORDERS!
Y-YES.
YOU AGREE WITH ME?

YOU JUST GONNA TO LET HIM SPEAK THIS WAY?
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN...
I NO ACCEPT THAT ASSAHOLE!
I'M THE #10 PLAYER HERE!
FIRST OF ALL...
TA (TEK)
PII (TWEET)
BUT WE HAVE NO CHOICE BY NOW! I JUST PRETEND I FOLLOW HIS LEAD.
OOH!
OHH, BRILLIANT! SO SMART!


NAA-!
KUSA-TSU'S LOOK-ING BETTER NOW.
...WHEN YOU LOOK AT OVERALL STRENGTH, WE'RE HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE THEM!
PI (BEEP)
...IT DOESN'T MATTER IF THEY HAVE A FEW GREAT PLAYERS...
NAA-!
...THESE GUYS...
BISHI (BZIP)
BA (LEAP)
IF WE JUST PLAY LIKE WE NOR-MALLY DO...
BRING IT BACK ON A LINE, IBUKI!!
AHHH!!
...SHOULD BE TOAST!
GASA (SWISH)
WAAAAH!


AND NOW THEY'RE AHEAD!
SUPAN (SPOW)
NOOOOO!!
AND JUST LIKE THAT...
...IT'S TIED!!
GO (THUD)
BASA (FWAP)
WHOA!
MAIBARA-SENPAI!
AAH!
GAKON (KTHUD)
PASHI (POW)
BUT NOW IT'S TIED!
HAVE YOU EVER EVEN HEARD OF FOUR PLAYERS WITH A HAT TRICK IN ONE GAME!!?
WAAH!
WHOA-AAA!! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
RAH! RAHH!
RAH! RAHH!
BUT WE GAVE UP A GOAL !!
UWAAAH!
BASU (FWISH)

NOW THIS IS WHAT I CALL A PROPER MUDFIGHT!
YES!
HA HA HA.
G-GOOD LUCK!
11-10 KUSATSU, THIRTY MINUTES INTO THE SECOND HALF...
UTTER FOLLY.
IT'S CAPTAIN PASS-THE-BALL-TO-MY-HUGE-FORWARDS.
SHUT UP!
YO...
TO (TMP)
IZZAT SO?
TO THE LEFT!?
BO (BOOM)
IBUKI!
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE ANY OF THEM ARE ON THE LEFT..
WE'VE GOT OUR SIGHTS SET HIGHER THAN YOU LOT.
AND WINNING COMES FIRST FOR THAT.

NUMBER SIXTEEN!!
HEH HEH HEH HEH.
HEH.
IZUBA (ZOOSH)
HE WAS TOTALLY WASTED AFTER THE FIRST HALF!!
WHY!?
I FIGURED THIS WOULD HAPPEN (?), SO I GUESS IT WAS THE RIGHT IDEA TO LET HIM SLACK OFF IN THE SECOND HALF! (HA-HA.)
THE PLAN WAS A SUCCESS. ☆
WHAT!?
SEE, WE'RE USED TO PLAYING WITH TEN MEN, THANKS TO INUGAMI*!
BUT YOUR MINDS ARE TOO WRAPPED UP IN THE SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO EVEN CONSIDER THAT, NO DOUBT!!
HE'S FAST!
HOW WOULD ANYONE NOTICE THAT!?

* SEE CHAPTER 19, A PHANTOM PLAYER WHO ONLY PLAYS 30 SECONDS EVERY MATCH

NAGAHAMA! ANTON'S FREE ON THE OTHER SIDE!
ARE YOU IGNORING ME!?
DA (DASH)
RAKU-ICHI!!
HE TRY TO COME BY HIM-SELF?
YOU FAIL, BOY!
WE STOP YOU!!
CHIRA (PEEK)
ZUZAA (SLIDE)

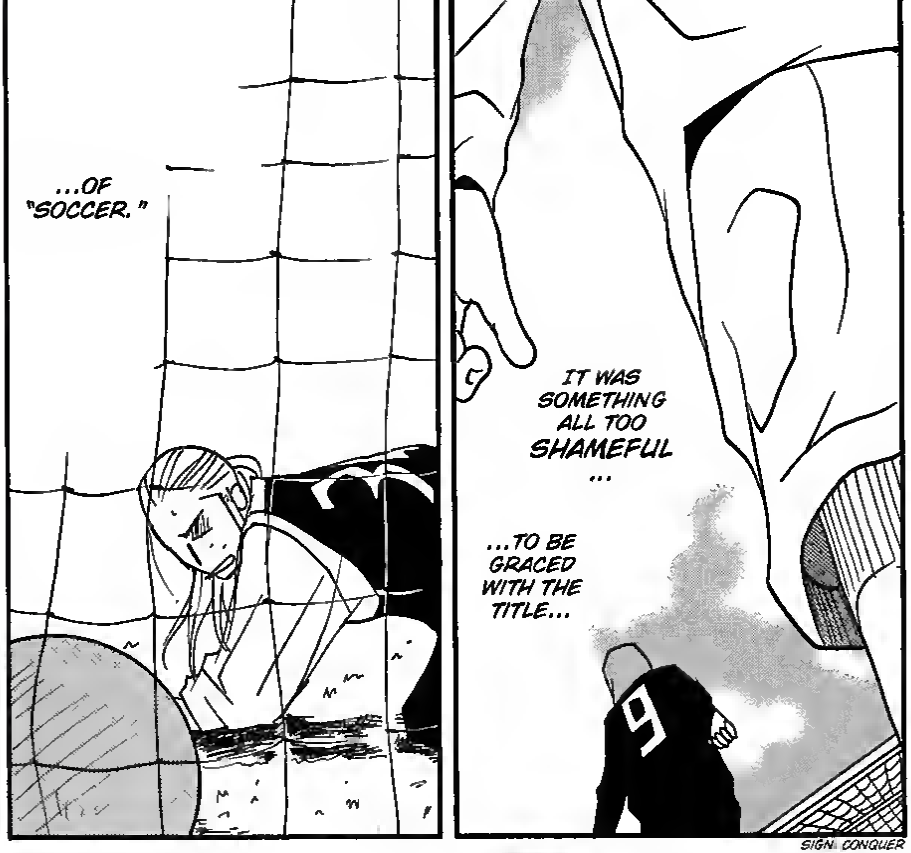
TON (TMP)
!?
BACK, KEEPER! YOU'RE TOO FAR UP!
ZAZA (ZSHH)
CHON (OINK)
DAMMEET!
AHH!
SO CLOSE!
BA (ZIP)
KAN (CLANG)
OHHHHH!

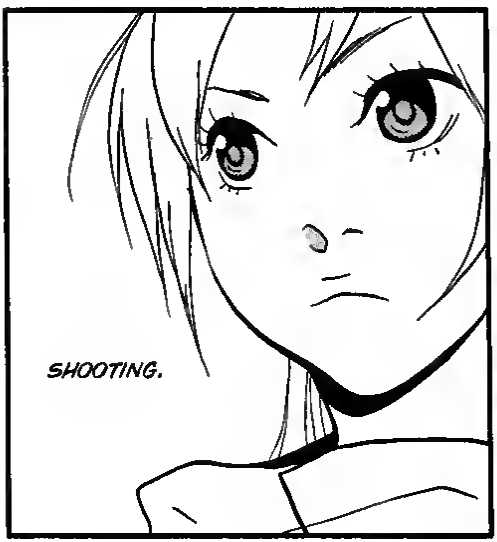
SHU (WHISH)
DO (BOOM)
OHHHHH! IT'S TIED UP AGAIN!!
WHOAAA!
KEUCHI-SENPAI!
HE'S SO BEAU-TIFUL!!
MUKYAA!!
HELL, YEAH!
MUKYAA!! KYA! KYA!
I MEAN, 11-11!?
WAAH!
RAAH!
THIS GAME IS FREAKIN' IMPOSSIBLE!!!
KYA!

WE ONLY HAVE FIVE MINUTES LEFT!!
WHY YOU STAND AROUND?
CRAP!
HATA-SHOU!
TA (TEK) TA..
YOU GUYS ...
WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS...
WE HAVE TO SCORE!!
YEAH!!
RAAH
PII (PWEEET)
NAGAHAMA, THE BALL'S COMING THIS WAY!!
...HOW DO I NOT HAVE A SINGLE ONE OF THEM?
UUUH... UNNGH...
IF THERE HAVE BEEN TWENTY-TWO GOALS IN THIS GAME...
ZUGAAA (BLOOSH)
RAAAHH!

SIGN. GACHA CLUB MEMBERS WANTED. WANT DETAILS? ASK ME YOURSELF! - MATSURI / NOTE: PAY ME BACK!

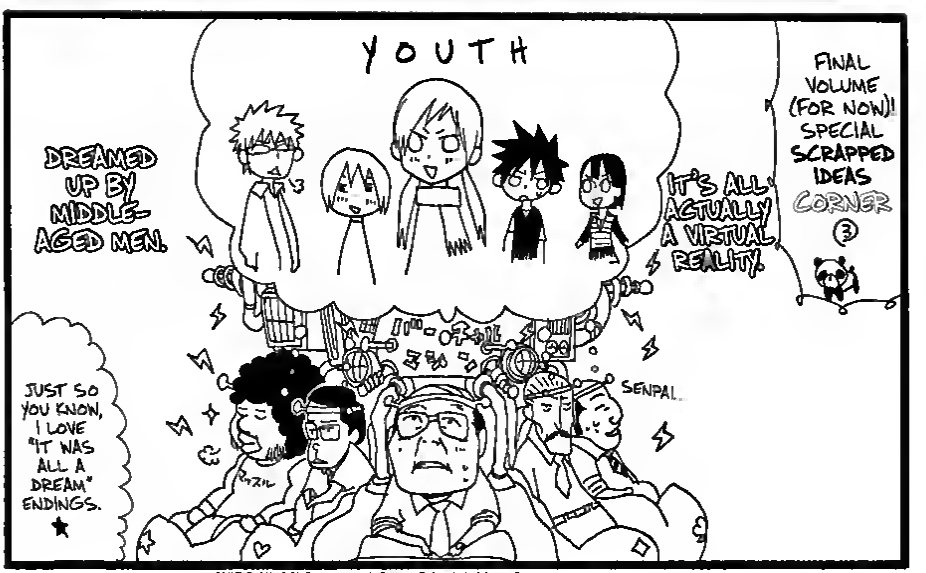
NOTE: GIMME BACK MY MONEY, MATSURI / BOX: BASEBALL TEAM / BOX: ROTTEN TANGERINES / GRAFFITI: YOU DID THIS WRONG / GRAFFITI: GRAFFITI IS ILLEGAL / NOTE: DON'T EAT THESE! BY YOUKAICHI / BAG: DRIED SWEET POTATO


...OF "SOCCER."
IT WAS SOMETHING ALL TOO SHAMEFUL ...
...TO BE GRACED WITH THE TITLE...
9


SHOOTING.

PASSING.

EVERY ASPECT OF THE GAME...
4
DRIBBLING.
I'M BORED
...WAS SHAMBLING AND SLOPPY.
IT WAS, IN ALL MEANINGS OF THE WORD...


YOUTH
DREAMED UP BY MIDDLE-AGED MEN.
IT'S ALL ACTUALLY A VIRTUAL REALITY.
FINAL VOLUME (FOR NOW)! SPECIAL SCRAPPED IDEAS CORNER ③
JUST SO YOU KNOW, I LOVE "IT WAS ALL A DREAM" ENDINGS. ★
SENPAI.

SHIRT MUSCLE SIGN VIRTUAL MACHINE

ALL OF OUR GUYS ARE COMPLETELY WIPED OUT.
BA (ZIP)
AAGH!
LOOKS LIKE ABOUT FIVE MINUTES LEFT, INCLUDING LOST TIME...
MAN, I GOTTA SCORE BEFORE TIME RUNS OUT!!
REALLY DON'T WANT TO HAVE THIS ONE CARRY INTO OVERTIME...
PLUS THE BRAZILIANS HAVE STOPPED PLAYING ROGUE.
PASHI (SNATCH)
AH!
YOU NO DO THAT, AMIGO!!
THEN AGAIN, ALL THEY HAVE IS SIZE ON THEIR SIDE...
YOU NO DO THAT!
BI (BING)

ZAッ
YEAH!
MATSURI-SENPAI!
DO. (BOOM)
NOW'S MY CHANCE TO SHOW OFF MY GLORIOUS SPECTACLE OF ME!
FU FU FU FU FU
FUFUFU HAFU...
BA (ZIP)
THAT #16 SURE IS SPEEDY!!
WHOAA, HE GOT THROUGH!!
ZAッ
ZAッ
ZAッ
THE PASS WAS BETTER, THOUGH.
GO (BAM)
16

FUJIO!
BRO!!
GET UP TO THE TOP!!
WE DON'T HAVE NO TIME!!
GA (THUD)
WAAH!
WAAH!
WAAH!
FCK!!
WAAH!
WAAH!
WAAH!
WAAH!
WAAH!
SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE FULLY PRESSING THE ATTACK...
HMM ...
THE DIFFERENCE IN OVERALL TALENT IS FINALLY STARTING TO BEAR OUT...

THE FOULS ARE STARTING TO PILE UP.
BA (ZIP)
!
PII (PWEET)
AND EVEN MORE PRESSING THAN THAT IS SIMPLY THAT ALL OF OUR PLAYERS ARE RUNNING OUT OF STAMINA.
EXCEPT FOR THE GOOD ONES.
YOU ALSO CAN'T DISCOUNT THE FACT THAT NONE OF US HAS EVER BEEN IN A GAME WITH SUCH HIGH STAKES...
IT'S ALL OVER...
HUFF...
HUFF...
BI (BSHH)
AHH, HE GOT PAST ME!!
ZEE (WHEEZE)
ZEE
EVEN NAGAHAMA-KUN'S HIT A PEAK IN TERMS OF FATIGUE.

TH-THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE...
YEEP...
HATASHOU!
YEAH, WE'RE GONNA LOSE
DOSHU (DSHHH)
HYA!
WHOAAA! HATASHOU STRIKES STRAIGHT FOR THE NET!!
TIME TO SHINE!!
ZUBA (ZOOSH)
SO FAST!
TCH!
(FOUL)
GA (SHOVE)
GA (CRUNCH)
BA

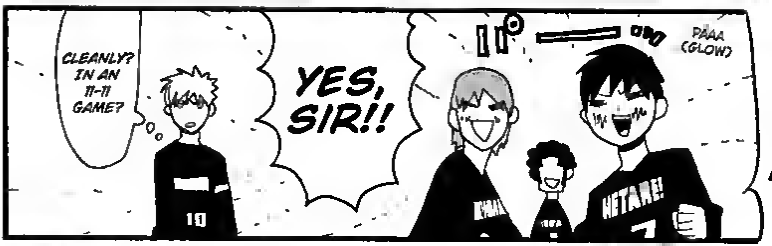
(FOUL!!)
PIP!!!
(FWEEE)
!!
GASU
(SLIDE)
10
8
SETA JERSEY: CONAKUSO! = TO HELL WITH IT!
THAT'S NOT GOOD.
OH CRAP!
IT'S A RED CARD ...
!!
WAAH!
WAAH!
YOU OKAY SHOU-CHAN?
NIYA
(SMIRK)
ニヤ
9

OH, GREAT.
SEN-PAI
AAH...
NO!
...OUT OF THE GAME!!?
SETA-SENPAI'S...
AUGH!
NYOOO!
JERSEY: NANTEKOTTA = OH MY GOD!
SETA...
MY BAD.
IT'S ON YOU GUYS, NOW.
EVERY-ONE...
YOU-KA-ICHI...
SETA-KUN...
AH WA WA WA...
SETA JERSEY: CHI...SHOU = DAMMIT
JUST SCORE A GOAL!
UH...
NAGA-HAMA...
NEMUTA!
16
JERSEY: NEMUTA! = SLEEPY

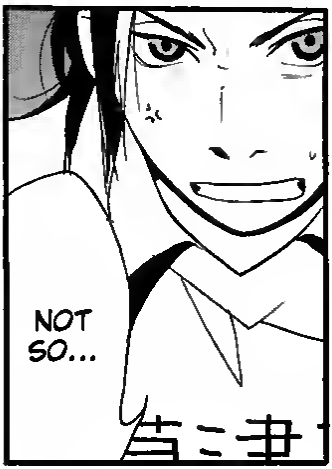
ZON (BOOM)
MAN, WHAT AM I GONNA DO AGAINST THESE GIANTS!?
BA (ZIP)
I'M ON IT.
GA (GAKK)
WHAT HOPS!
MATSURI-SENPAI!!

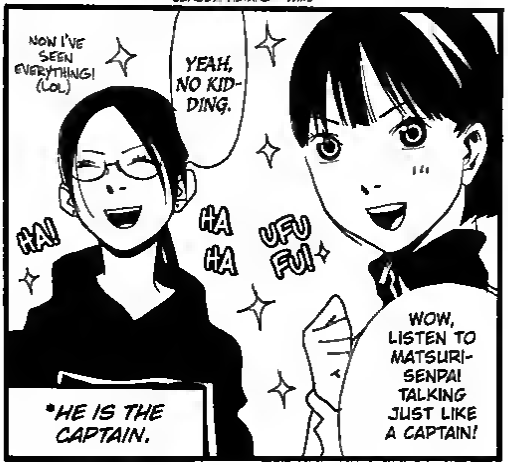
WELL, ALL THEY GOT IS SIZE ON THEIR SIDE!
HE CAN HANG WITH THAT BRAZILIAN HEIGHT!?
INSANE!
(DSHH)
WHAT YOU SAY!?
GOOOOOO!!
MAIBARA-SENPAI!
WHERE HAS HE BEEN!?
1-0
PASHI (SNAK)
YOU AIN'T GOIN' ANY-WHAAA!?
BISHI (BSHH)
10
4

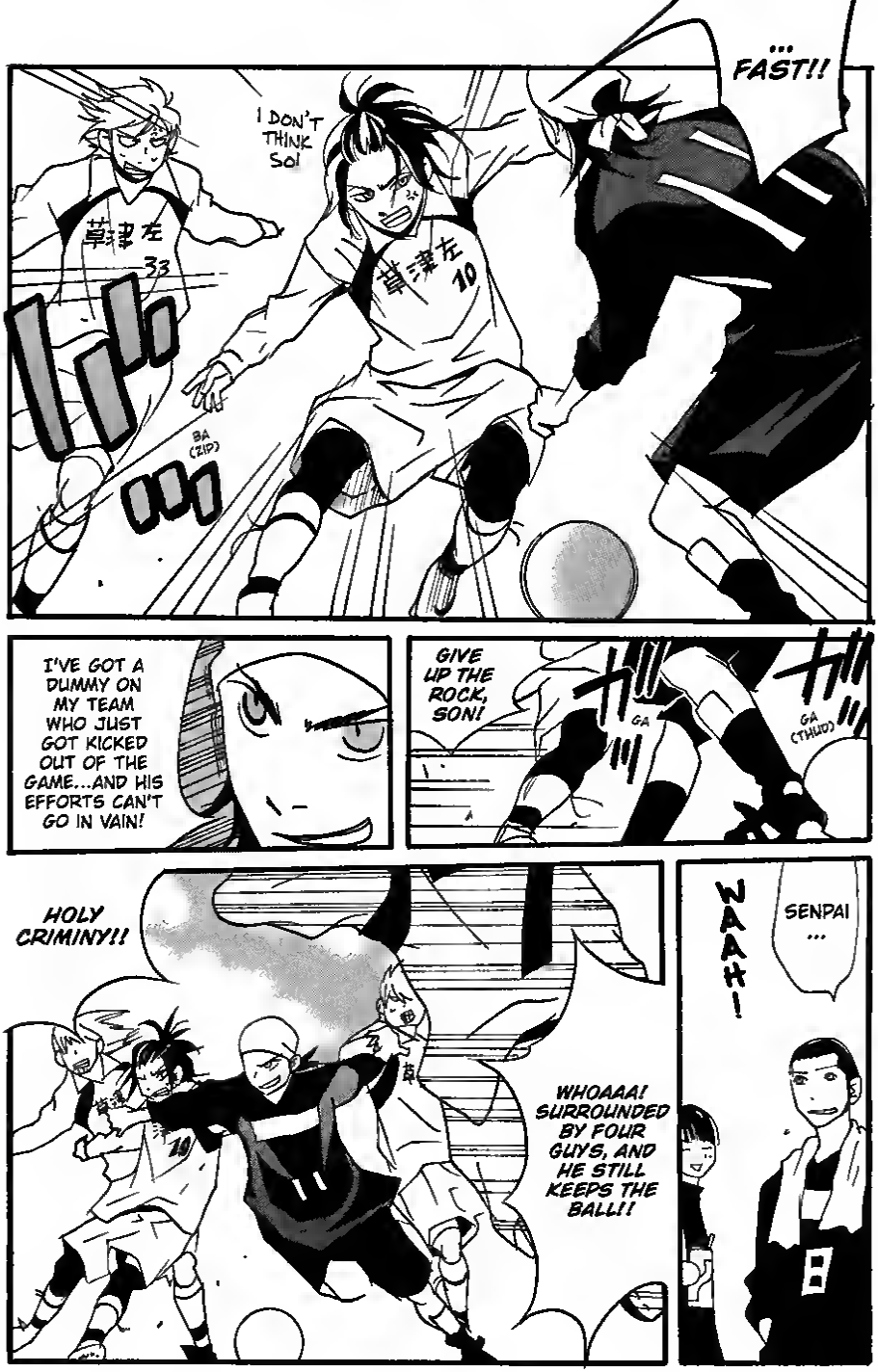
AWW, DAMN!
DAMMIT, KID! STAY FARTHER UP!!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY AROUND!
BA (JAB)
OH YEAH...
PAKAN (THWAP)
WHOA, THAT PASS WAS OUTTA REACH!!
I FORGOT WE HAD...
GOKURI (GULP)
...THIS MONSTER OF A PLAYER ON OUR SIDE...
GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME, YOUKAICHI!
R-RIGHT.
YO!
A GENIUS WHO CAN CHANGE THE FLOW OF THE ENTIRE GAME WITH A SINGLE PLAY!...!
(WITH MAIBARA-SENPAI'S HELP.)



JERSEY: HETARE = WIMP






...FAST!!
I DON'T THINK SO!
草津左 33
草津左 10
BA (ZIP)
I'VE GOT A DUMMY ON MY TEAM WHO JUST GOT KICKED OUT OF THE GAME...AND HIS EFFORTS CAN'T GO IN VAIN!
GIVE UP THE ROCK, SON!
GA
GA (THUD)
HOLY CRIMINY!!
WHOAAA! SURROUNDED BY FOUR GUYS, AND HE STILL KEEPS THE BALL!!
WAAH!
SENPAI ...

I KNEW IT...
.....
..EEZ THAT GUY?
WHAT THE WORLD..
OWW!
GA (KICK)
HE'S THE REAL McCOY...
!!?
WHA!?
PIPI! (PWEEET)
WHAT THE BALLS DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!!?
DOFU (DWOMP)
fwak!!
GO TO HELL!!!
NGH !!!

YOU'RE OUT OF THE GAME!!
MUH?
RED CARD!!
.....
.....
.....
TEE HEE!
WHOOPSY!★
YOU MORON!!
AH-HA-HA-HA-HA!
YES! THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO DO 'EM IN! ☆☆☆
YEAH!!
草津先
31
津先
10
NO USE RELYING ON A SCRUB LIKE HIM TO PULL THE WEIGHT!
AUU UUU UGH!!
16
GRAAAAAH!!
JUST GOTTA TRUST IN MYSELF AND BREAK THROUGH!!

WAAH!
GRR...
WAAH!
GRRRR...
CURSE YOU, HIKIYAMA!
HA-HA-HA. IT SEEMS THAT ONCE AGAIN I'VE GOTTEN THE BEST OF YOU, KURI-KUN.
FU FU FU
ZAN (SWISH)
AUGH! NOT YOU!
YOU MUST BE RATHER CONFIDENT IF YOU ARE WILLING TO VISIT THE ENEMY'S STANDS TO GLOAT, SIR.
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE INTERESTING ...
...TO ENJOY OUR VICTORY IN THE ENEMY'S MIDST. ☆
RRRGH!!
UH, WHO ARE THEY?
WHAT?
THOSE ARE THE PRINCIPALS OF THE TWO SCHOOLS.
WAAH!
FU-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
THE LAUGHS! OH THE HEARTY LAUGHINGS!
HA HA HA HA HA!
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
BACHI (ZAP)
BACHI
YOU FILTHY RAT BAS-TARD!!
OH SHUT UP
GRR!
TALK ABOUT ADULTS BEHAVING BADLY...

GET FARTHER UP, NAGA-HAMA!
THEN FREAKIN' PASS IT TO ME, ALREADY!
RAKU-ICHI!
USH!
GA (WHAK)
NAGA-HAMA?
I'M GOOD!!
CRAP, MY LEG'S CRAMP-ING!
JUST GOTTA WORK THROUGH THE PAIN!
ZUKI (WINCE)
DON'T LEAVE THE MIDDLE OPEN!
NO!
STILL, HE'S REALLY SOMETHING ...
HOW CAN YOU BE FINE?

WAAH~
AND LOOK AT ME... LOOK AT ME!
WHAT AM I GOOD FOR?
BLAH BLAH
HE'S THE SMALLEST GUY ON THE FIELD, AND HE'S PUTTING IT ALL OUT THERE...
WE'RE ALREADY DOWN TWO PLAYERS.
IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD FOR US.
POOR HAJIME-CHAN.
WAIT, I KNOW!
STAND UP AND SHOUT, "DO YOUR BEST!" LIKE IN A MANGA! IT MIGHT CAUSE A MIRACLE!!
HUH?
OUT OF THE POWER OF LOVE!
KIIN (CKCHING)
LOVE IS A MIRA-CLE!
SHOW HIM THE POWER—GIRL POWER!
MIRA-CLE
I'LL DO IT, SENPAI!
BOYS ARE LIKE SOAP BUBBLES
THAT'S THE SPIR-IT!
HAJIME...

...YOU-KA-ICHI!!
KNOCK 'EM DEAD!
GYA-
!!
MAIKO-SENPAI!!
...MY NAME!!
CALLED OUT...
SFX: NIYA (SMIRK)
HEH.
HUH?
TA (TEK)
OH!

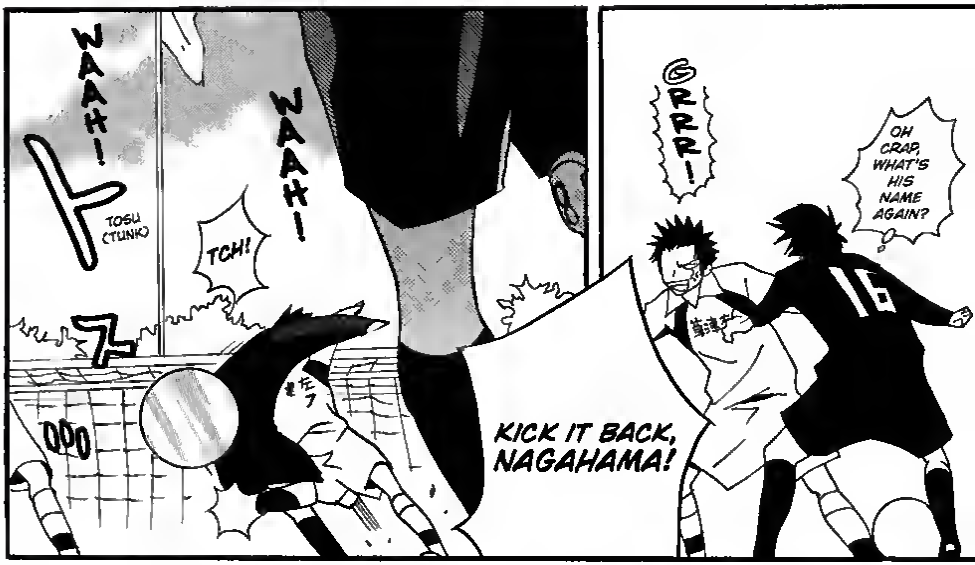
YOU-KAICHI STOLE THE BALL ... FROM HATA-SHOU !!?
WHAT IS THAT PASSING?
WHUH?
SUBA (SWISH)
!?
HUHHH !!?
HEH! ALL ACCORDING TO YE OLDE PLAN.
IT WAS ONLY YOUKAICHI WHO COULD MAKE SUCH A PLAN A SUCCESS, WITH HIS NAGAHAMA-LEVEL FRIVOLITY AND INEPTITUDE THAT QUICKLY GOT HIM OVERLOOKED BY THE OTHER TEAM (ETC.).
NO WAY! IS THIS REALLY ME?
MY SHINING MOMENT!?
ALL MINE!!?
HAJIME-CHAN!
THE POWER OF LOVE?
NAAA-!

HAJIME-CHAN!!
OUCH
PIIII (FWEEE!)
KILL YOURSELF!
RED CARD, DAMN YOU! KICK HIS ASS OUT OF THE LEAGUE!!
OUCH, THAT ONE HIT HIM FULL ON THE LEG!
AAAH! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!! OWW!
I DON'T THINK SO!!
ZUGA (SLIDE)
YOUKA-ICHI!!
UUURGH
NNGH...
SU (SWISH)
YOU OKAY, MAN!?
!!
UHHN UHHN...
DAISY
OOPS!
(CONG)

RUN, NAGAHAMA!!
!!
CRAP ...!!
ALL DEFENDER COME TO GOAL!!!
OH SHI—
AND THEN TO #4!!
DO (BOOM)
YOU SEE? THIS IS WHY YOU'RE NAIVE...
... HATA-SHOU!

AND NOW #16!!
BASHU (ZWOOM)
PASHI (TSHH)
ZA (SKD)
HERE WE GO!
RAKU-ICHI!!
YEAH!

15
16
ZUBA (LEAP)
GŌU (WHOOSH)
...THAT I MAKE THE PLAY!!
TODAY IS THE DAY...
NAGA-HAMAAA ...!!!
草津
ZOOM)
DAMMIT!!

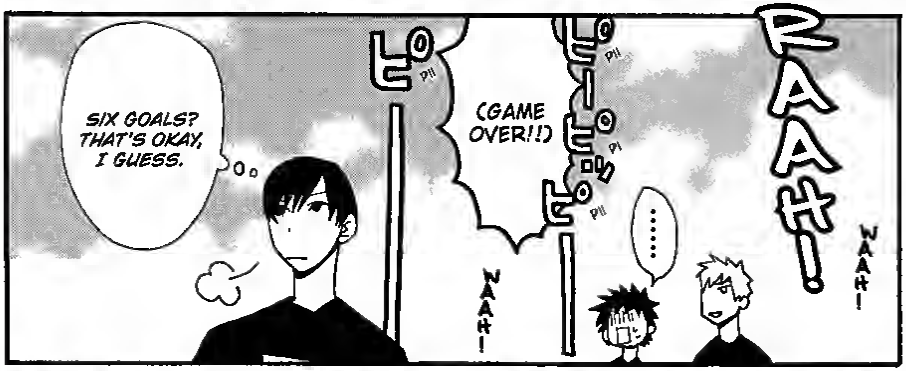

GRRR!
OH CRAP, WHAT'S HIS NAME AGAIN?
KICK IT BACK, NAGAHAMA!
WAAH!
TOSU (TUNK)
TCH!
WAAH!

AH!
NICE PASS. ☆
TON (TMP)
YOU NO GET THROUGH!!
YOU NO GET THROUGH!
WAIT, FUJIO!

*DIVE: TO ACT IN SUCH A WAY TO DECEIVE THE REFEREE INTO DECLARING A FOUL ON THE OPPONENT. OF COURSE, IF HE NOTICES THAT YOU DOVE, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GETS PUNISHED.

HEY, THE REF'S WORD IS EVERYTHING.
YOU SEE? HE JUST FINE...
SUKKU (HOP)
YOU ARE SUCH A BITCH...
CHIRARI (PEEK)
OOPS. TOO BLATANT?
YOU WANT THE PK?
NI (GRIN)
NAGA-HAMA.
HMMM...
PI (FWEET)
MM?

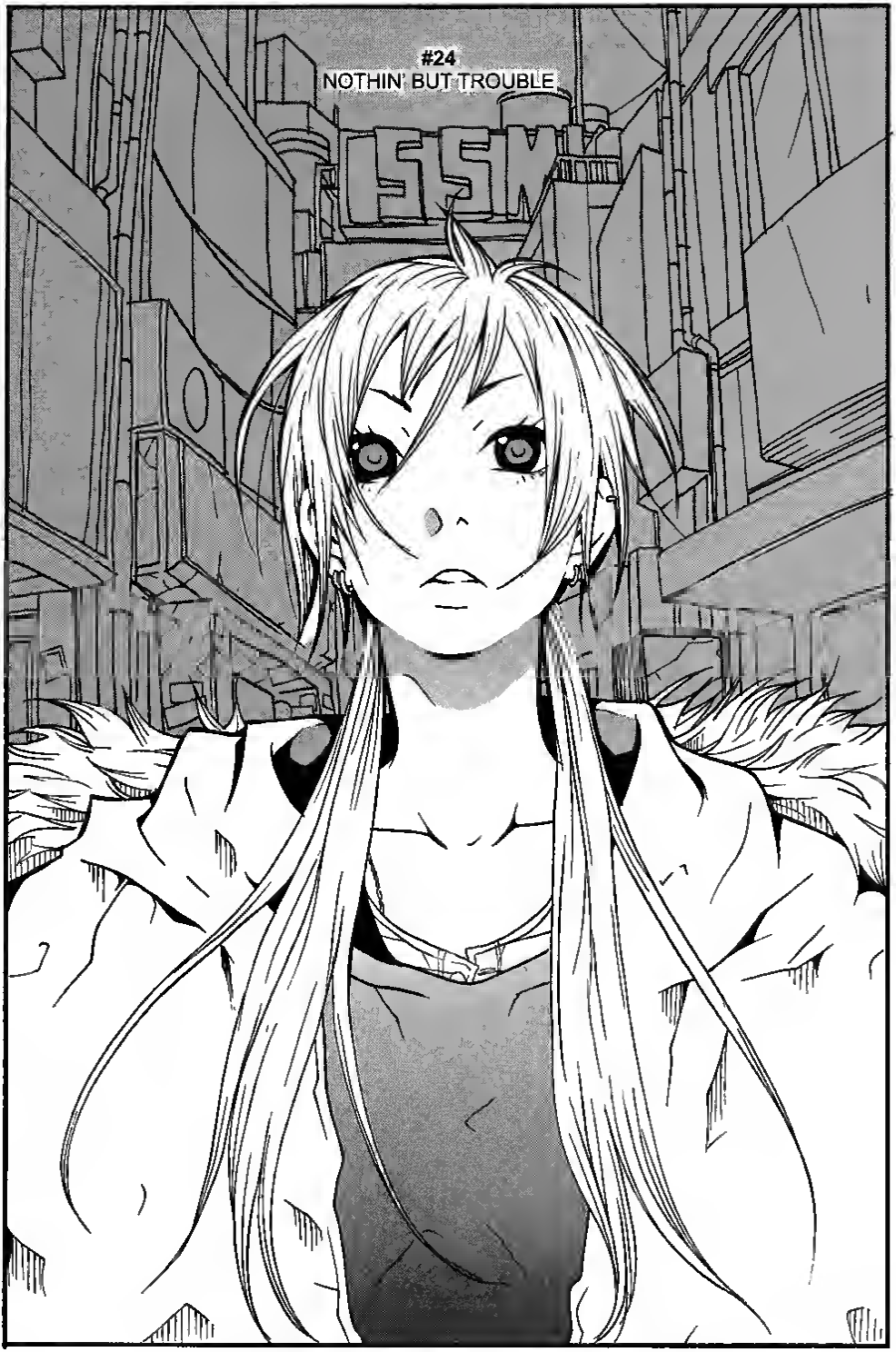
HUH?
BASU (BWOMP)
NAAH!
KYAAA! MAIBARA-KUN!
NAAH!


SIX GOALS? THAT'S OKAY, I GUESS.
PI!
(GAME OVER!!)
PI!
NAAH!
NAAH!

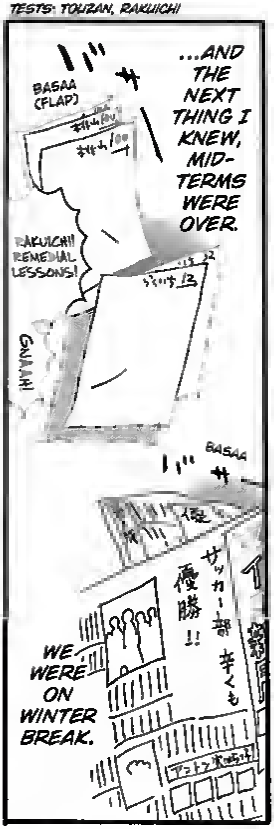
GAME
OVER.
ZUUUN (GLOOM)
ANOTHER DAY WITHOUT A GOAL!
UUGH...

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!
GODAMMIT!
OH! THE SCREAM OF THE VICTOR!
AWWW, YEAH!
I DID IT!
CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH ARE CHAMPIONS!! (OF THE PRELIMS.)
THEY'RE SO HAPPY
NAKAYSHI
SO TIRED.
IS IT RIGHT TO WIN THIS WAY?
JUST YOU WAIT, NATION!!
NEXT TIME! NEXT TIME!!
ARGH!
WHAT CAN I SAY? ALL TALENT.
KYA!
BY THE WAY, AZUCHI WAS THE HIGHEST SCORER OF THE PRELIMS!
DAMN STAR
EIGHT GOALS IN ONLY TWO GAMES...

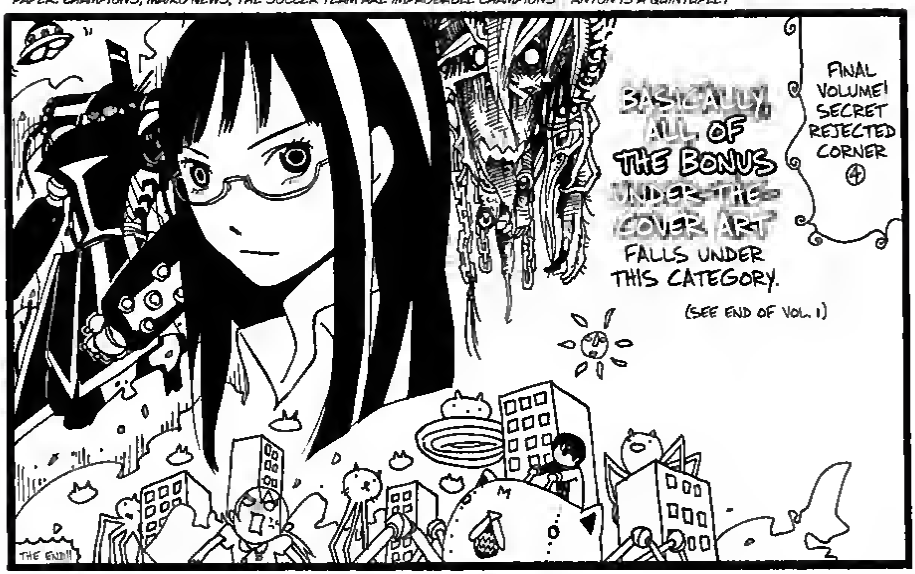
JERSEY: TABUNNE = PROBABLY/I HOPE


#24
NOTHIN' BUT TROUBLE

TESTS: TOUZAN, RAKUICHI



PAPER: CHAMPIONS, MAIKO NEWS, THE SOCCER TEAM ARE IMPROBABLE CHAMPIONS! ANTON IS A QUINTUPLET

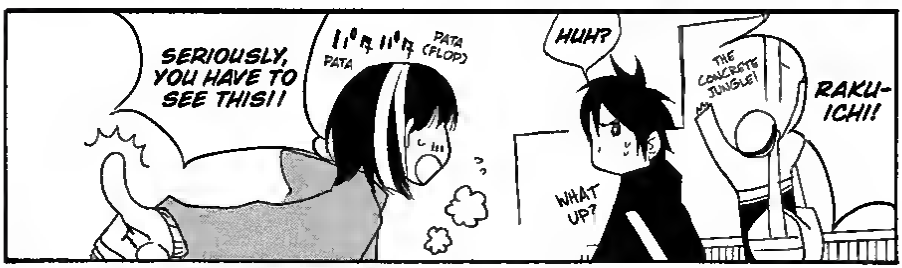

BASICALLY ALL OF THE BONUS UNDER THE COVER ART FALLS UNDER THIS CATEGORY.
(SEE END OF VOL. 1)
FINAL VOLUME! SECRET REJECTED CORNER ④
THE END!!

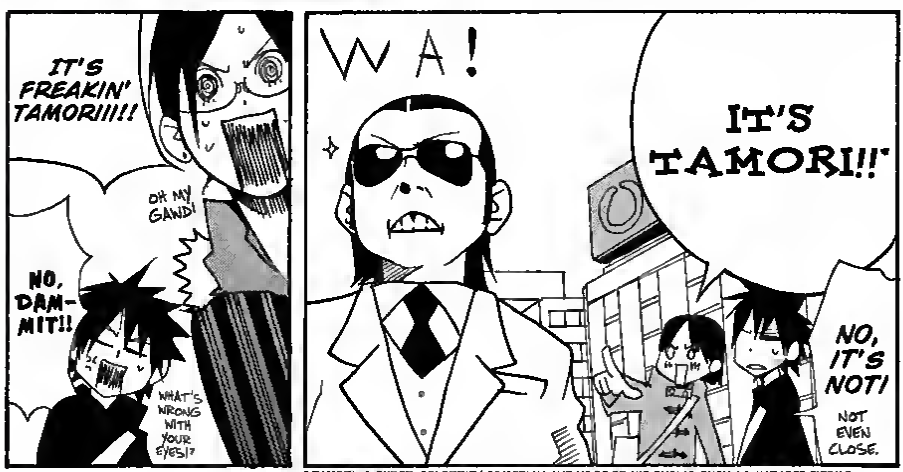
IT WAS JUST ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE HOLIDAY SEASONS!!?
GOOOO (WHOOSH)
SOON CHRISTMAS HAD PASSED.
WHOA, WHEN DID THIS ALL HAPPEN!?
NO ROMANTIC SCENES!?
WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A CULTURE FESTIVAL AT SCHOOL
CHILLED SOMEN!
RAMEN!
AMEN!
GOOO
PUAAAA (HONNNK)
WE TRAVELED TO THE PLACE WHERE THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT WOULD BE HELD.
THIS BULLET TRAIN SEEMS KINDA RETRO TO ME!
TOKYO!!!
TO THE CAPITAL CITY OF JAPAN:
ROPPONGI
DOBAGOOOOON (BADABOOOM)
ドバゴォォォン!

*CATCHPHRASE FROM THE BAYSIDE SHAKEDOWN (GODZILLA VS. MEGAGUIRUS) TV AND MOVIE SERIES ABOUT THE TOKYO POLICE FORCE. ONE OF THE MOVIES REVOLVES AROUND THE RAINBOW BRIDGE THAT SPANS THE TOKYO BAY SEEN IN THE BACKGROUND. THE STATUE OF LIBERTY IN THE FOREGROUND IS AN ACTUAL REPLICA THAT STANDS TODAY.

PLUS, THIS IS YOUR CALL, SETA! YOU'RE THE "REAL" CAPTAIN; WHY AREN'T YOU STEPPING UP!?
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?
FU-HA-HA-HA! SUCK IT, TOKYO!!
UP FRONT, BEHIND, ALL AROUND.
?
?
TO THE LEFT: ANOTHER HIGH-RISE.
TURN TO THE RIGHT: A HIGH-RISE.
BOSO (MUTTER)
THIS IS A ONE-OF-A-KIND SIGHT.
IN THE OLD, CONSERVA-TIVE CITIES OF EUROPE, YOU'D NEVER FIND A CRAZY SWARM OF HUGE BUILDINGS LIKE THESE.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I GET TO SEE IT ALL IN PERSON! I'M THE LUCKIEST MAN ALIVE!!
A BUILDING PARADISE!
THIS IS A VERITABLE PARA-DISE!!
OR, SHORTENED: A BUILPARA! THE GREATEST BUILPARA IN JAPAN!!
W-WOW, WHAT A BUILDING NUT!!
FU-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

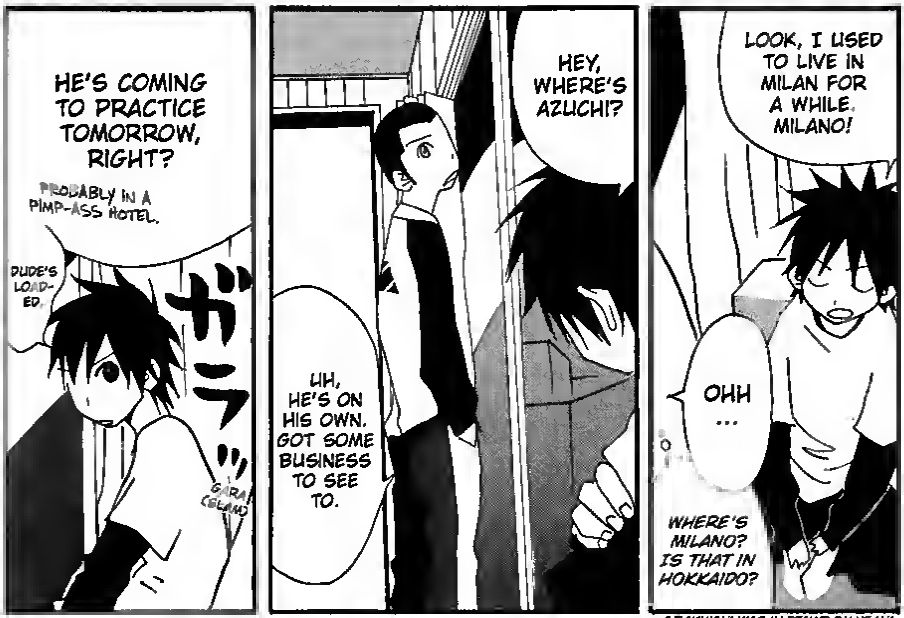




*TAMORI: A SUPER-CELEBRITY COMEDIAN AND HOST OF HIT SHOWS SUCH AS WARATTE IITONO, MUSIC STATION, AND TAMORI CLUB. HE IS NEVER SEEN WITHOUT HIS TRADEMARK SUNGLASSES

*CHAGE ONE HALF OF THE HIT POP DUO CHAGE & ASKA, ALSO SEEN WITH HIS FAMOUS SUNGLASSES. FOR TEN YEARS, HE ALSO HELMED A GROUP CALLED MULTI MAX.

MAN, I BEEN, LIKE, TOTALLY SHOCKED.
一里塚M
SIGN: HIGH-QUALITY INN, ICHIRIZUKA M
BUILD INGS ..
I CAN'T EVEN BOTHER TELLING YOU OFF ANY-MORE
WAI
UNBEE WEEBA BOH!
WHAT, NO LIE?
REELY!?
WAI (WHEE)
CAN'T TRUST THEM NONE!
C'N YOU BELIEVE ALLA THE PEOPLE ON THE STREET TALKIN' NORMAL JAPANESE!?
FUU (SIGH)
SERIOUSLY, HOW EXCITED CAN YOU POSSIBLY GET...?
YOU MEAN YOU AREN'T EXCITED?


HE'S COMING TO PRACTICE TOMORROW, RIGHT?
PROBABLY IN A PIMP-ASS HOTEL.
DUDE'S LOADED.
ガラ
GARA (GELAND)
HEY, WHERE'S AZUCHI?
UH, HE'S ON HIS OWN. GOT SOME BUSINESS TO SEE TO.
LOOK, I USED TO LIVE IN MILAN FOR A WHILE, MILANO!
OHH ...
WHERE'S MILANO? IS THAT IN HOKKAIDO?

*RAKUICHI WAS IN ITALY? OH YEAH!

BASE-BALL!
WE GONNA HAVE US A LIL' BALL-GAME! ★
BUT NOT JUST ANY GAME: THE ANCIENT JAPANESE TRADITION...
BI (WHIP)
...OF PILLOW BASE-BALL!!
GA (CRUNCH)
KAKIN (CRAKK)
ALWAYS WANTED TO SAY THAT!
YOUR HANDS ARE BACK-WARD!
BA (WHOOSH)
HELL, YEAH!
WHAT IS THAT?
BAFU (BWOMP)
GIMME A PITCHER, NOT A BELLY-ITCHER! ★
WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?
BOSU (BWOP)

OH YEAH?
GA (GRAB)
NII (SMIRK)
HMPH!
BISHI (BWAP)
RAHH!
HYUBA (SWOSH)
YER OUT!!
BASHI (BWAM)
AAAAH!☆
UHH, GUYS ...?
BATAN (THUMP)
YAAAH!!
DOTAN (WHOMP)
USE COMMON SENSE? THIS ISN'T VERY CONSIDERATE...
MWA HA HA!
HEY!! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE!?
SEE?

BOX. BLACK-BEAN COCOA

SIGN. COME ON DOWN TO TOKYO

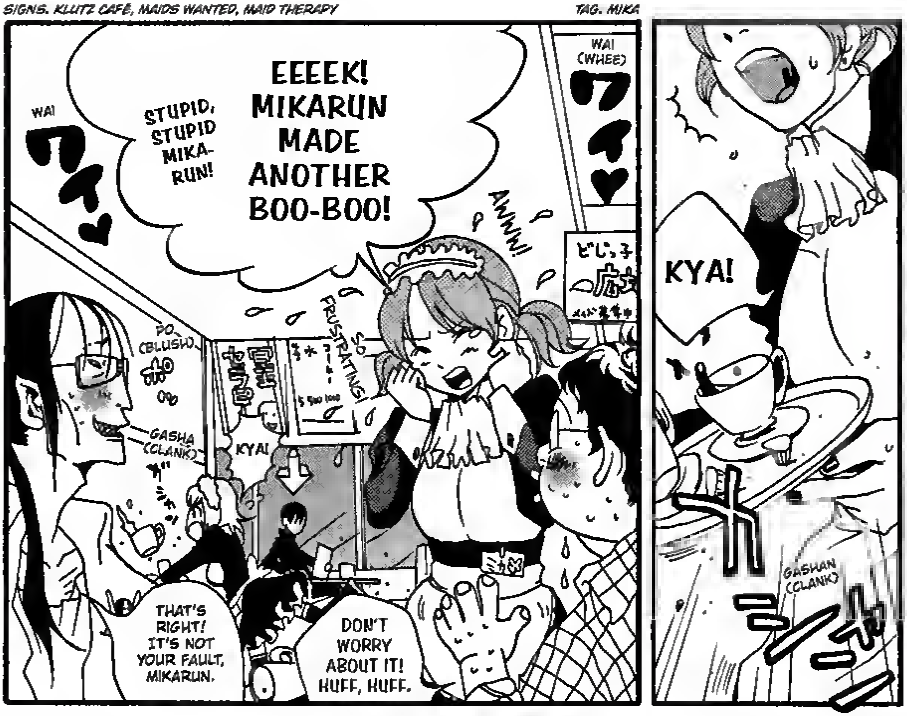
SOUNDS LIKE EVERYONE'S EXCITEMENT IS EXPLODING(?), HUH? ★
THE DARKNESS
HUH?
HA HA HA!
どき
DOKI (BADUM)
HUH?
BUT YOU'RE NOT GETTING EXCITED?
I MEAN, WE'RE ALL THE WAY IN TOKYO.

PAPER: GROOVY! ROPPONGI BILLS 350%!? SWEET!: AWESOME

(ROPPONGI BILLS IS A PARODY OF THE SUPER-EXPENSIVE LUXURY HIGH-RISE, ROPPONGI HILLS, A 54-STORY BUILDING THAT HOUSES VARIOUS SHOPPING AND ENTERTAINMENT OPTIONS AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF CELEBRITY APARTMENTS)

SIGNS: BREAD, SPORTS
SHE JUST SMELLED SO NICE AFTER COMING OUT OF THE BATH.
I WAS HELPLESS TO RESIST.
WHAT CAN I SAY?
GAYA
THE NEXT DAY..
PAPAA CHONK
GAYA
GAYA (BLAH)
Tokio
TOKYO... TOKYO? TOKYO! GAH-HA-HA!
LIKE, OH MY GOD!
LIKE, DOUGH MY GOD!
BY BUH BUH BAWN!
SIGN: TOKYO
WHO THE HELL COULD POSSIBLY RESIST THAT!? SHOW HIM TO ME!!!
EYES OF THE WOLF!
HAA (PANT)
WHO GIVES A RAT'S ASS ABOUT PRACTICE!?
HEH-HEH-HEH...
SHE SMELLED TOO DAMN NICE!
GREAT, I'M LOST.
FUGAAA (SNORT)
BOOK: MAP SAITAMA

SIGNS. EACH VOLUME 540 YEN BEFORE TAX, SASAMEKE, NODE, SASAMEKE IS BURNING(?) UP THE SALES CHARTS! CHECK IT OUT! MONTHLY SHONEN ACE GOES ON SALE THE 26TH OF EVERY MONTH! RADIO HALL



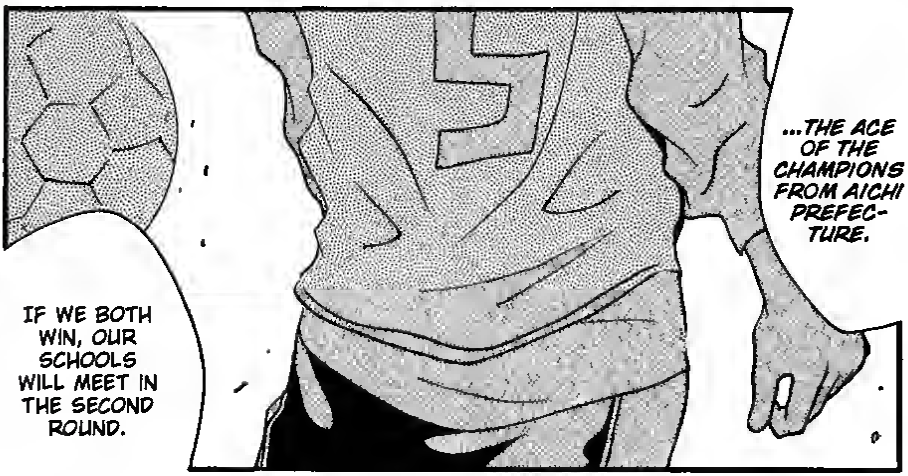
...THOROUGHLY ENJOYING THE PLEASURES OF TOKYO ON HIS OWN...

MENU: MAID CAFÉ, KLUTZY CHAIRMAN, MENU

WOW, LOOK WHO'S TALKING.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU PEOPLE DOING HERE!!?
YOU KNOW WE HAVE PRACTICE TODAY!!
BISHI (JAB)
GET LOST!
HA-HA, COME ON.
KYAAA!
GAAN (SHOCK)
UH, WHAT!?
THEN GO ON YOUR OWN!
OOOH, THAT SOUNDS FUN! ☆
I HEAR THERE'S A BUILDING IN TOKYO FULL OF NOTHING BUT GACHA MACHINES.
YOU THINK I'M GONNA PASS THAT UP!?
WELL, GANG, LET'S GO!☆
YAHOOO!
YEAAAH!
HEY, WAIT UP!

AH!
WE'RE LOST.
.....
HMM.
HUH?
A SOCCER TEAM.
I RECOGNIZE HIM...
GASA (RUSTLE)
GOGO (RUSTLE)
WAIT...

MAGAZINE: Q: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FOOD? A: STRAWBERRIES. MY FAVORITE SWEETS ARE ALL STRAWBERRY-FLAVORED! Q: WHAT ABOUT TV? WHAT DO YOU WATCH?

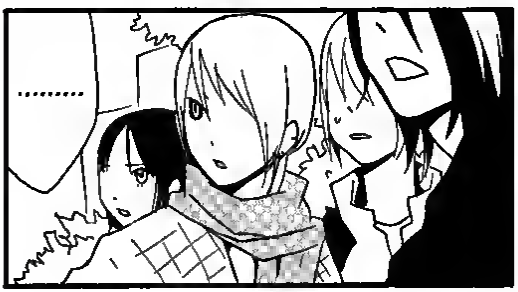


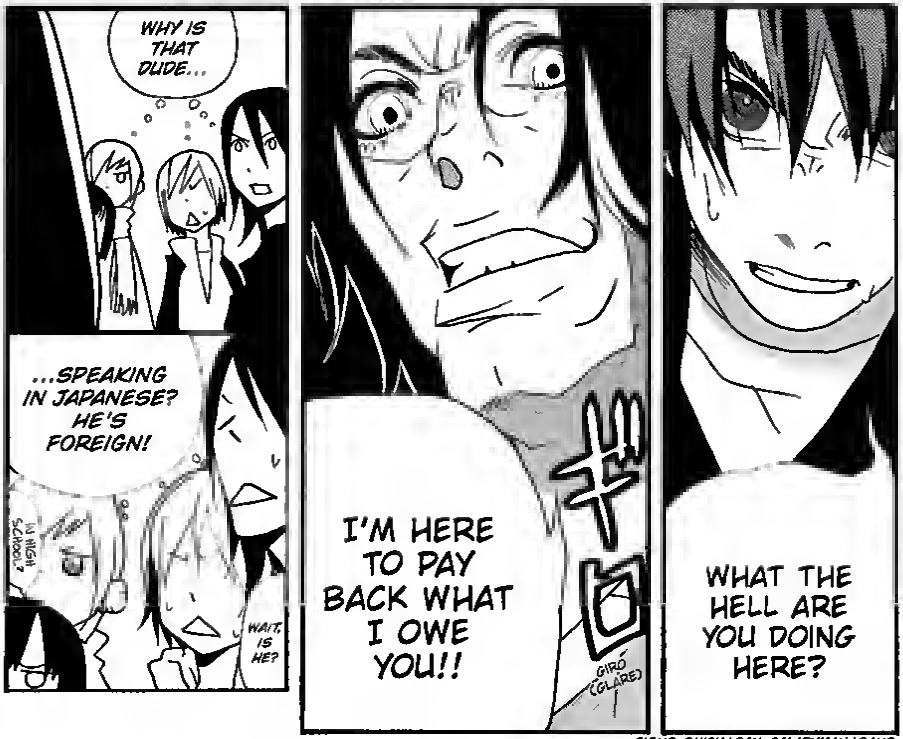
GASA (FWSHH)
EEEEEP!!?
WATCH OUUUT!!
SHEESH.
ヒュ!!
(HYU (SWISH)
FUU (SIGH)
WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU AIMING AT? BE CAREFUL!
ZA (SKFF)
DOKI (BADUM)
DOKI
HEY, SORRY ABOUT THAT! EVERY-ONE OKAY!?
RAKU-ICHI!
Y-YOU TRYING TO KILL ME!?
AT YOU.

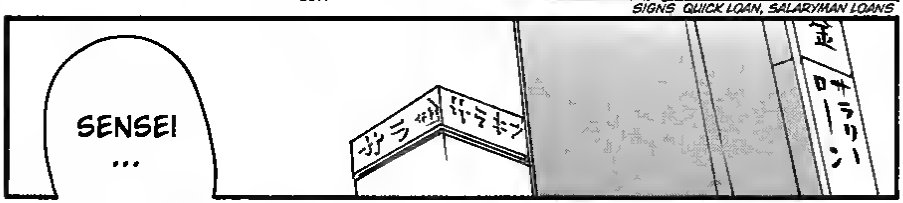
ITALIANO
...
...ROSSI!

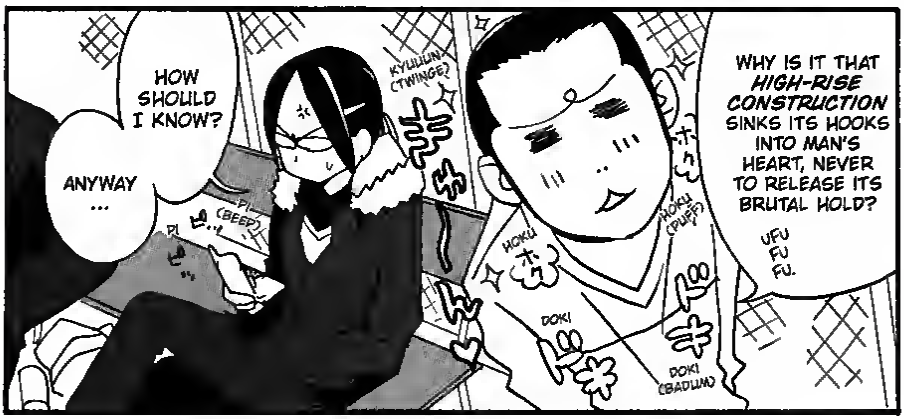
I WAS AIMING FOR YOU.
DON (BOOM)
RAKU-ICHI NAGA-HAMA.

IT'S YOU...


.....


WHY IS THAT DUDE...
...SPEAKING IN JAPANESE? HE'S FOREIGN!
IN HIGH SCHOOL?
WAIT, IS HE?
I'M HERE TO PAY BACK WHAT I OWE YOU!!
GIRŌ (GLARE)
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SIGNS: QUICK LOAN, SALARYMAN LOANS


SENSE!
...


HOW SHOULD I KNOW?
ANYWAY ...
PI... (BEEP)
KYUUUN (TWINGE)
HOKU
HOKU (PUFF)
DOKI
DOKI (BADUM)
WHY IS IT THAT HIGH-RISE CONSTRUCTION SINKS ITS HOOKS INTO MAN'S HEART, NEVER TO RELEASE ITS BRUTAL HOLD?
UFU FU FU.

GREAT, NOT AGAIN.
WHAT?
WHERE ARE ALL OUR PLAYERS!?
.....
...I CAN'T GET AHOLD OF THE PRINCIPAL ANYMORE.
FOR SOME WEIRD REASON...
WHATEVER. I'M HUNGRY...
.....
GLURGLE
HMM, YOU THINK SO?
GRGH
MAYBE HE'S JUST BUSY?
WITH STUFF.

WHAT DID THAT IDIOT THINK HE WAS DOING?
BUTSU (MUTTER)
BUTSU
WAIT, DIDN'T HE SAY HIS GRANDMA LIVED IN NAGOYA?
WHO WAS THAT GUY?
HEY.
YES! NO DOUBLES! FULL SET!
GUNI (PINCH)
OUCH!
RAKUICHI!
JUST A GUY...
TELL ME!
WHO IS HE?

IN THAT CASE...
SIGN SALE
...A WAYS BACK.
...WHO I KNEW ...
SU (SWISH)
I KNEW HIM WELL ENOUGH TO WANT TO CRUSH HIM.
IT WAS HIS FAULT I LEFT ITALY.
...CRUSH HIS ASS.
OBLITERATE HIM.

...THEY'RE ONE OF THE HEAVY FAVORITES TO WIN IT ALL...
YEAH, BUT...
YOU BET.
LIKE THAT MATTERS A BIT.
THAT GUY? HE AIN'T EVEN A SPECK ON THE RADAR.
SEN-PAI?
RAKU-ICHI...

WE'VE GOT ME ON THE TEAM!
GACHANKO (CLUNK)
GACHA
GACHA (CLUNK)
MUH?
JINX ...
SIGN: NEW ARRIVALS
HEE HEE!
PFFT!
GACHA
AH HA HA!
AH HA HA!
YEAH. ☆ WE'LL BE FINE.

SIGNS: MAID CAFE, KLUTZY CHAIRMAN, TIGER HALL, 2F ENTRANCE, GLASSES

SIGN QUICK LOANS

BUT DESPITE INAE-CHAN'S HOPEFUL, KINDHEARTED EXPECTATIONS ...

YOUKAICHI-KUN!

...MENACING FROM THE SHADOWS.

...A BLACK SHADOW WAS APPROACHING ...

TIDE

...WAS TRAGICALLY UNAWARE.

YANK

?

A FACT OF WHICH THE TEAM...

GRAAH!

EEEE!

THE DAY BEFORE THE FIRST ROUND OF THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT ...

...WAS THE LAST DAY OF OUR WINTER...

SIGN: SHIGA PREFECTURE, CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH SCHOOL, GRADUATION CEREMONY

滋賀県立竹生島高校
卒業式会場

...GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL!!

NAGA-HAMA.

SIGN: SOCCER CLUB, GRAFFITI: IDIOTS, LOVE AZUCHI-SENPAI

...THE BIG BOYS' AND GIRLS'...

...THE BIG BOYS' AND GIRLS'...

TODAY WE ARE HERE...

TODAY WE ARE HERE...

AND THEN, TWO MONTHS AND A FEW DAYS LATER...

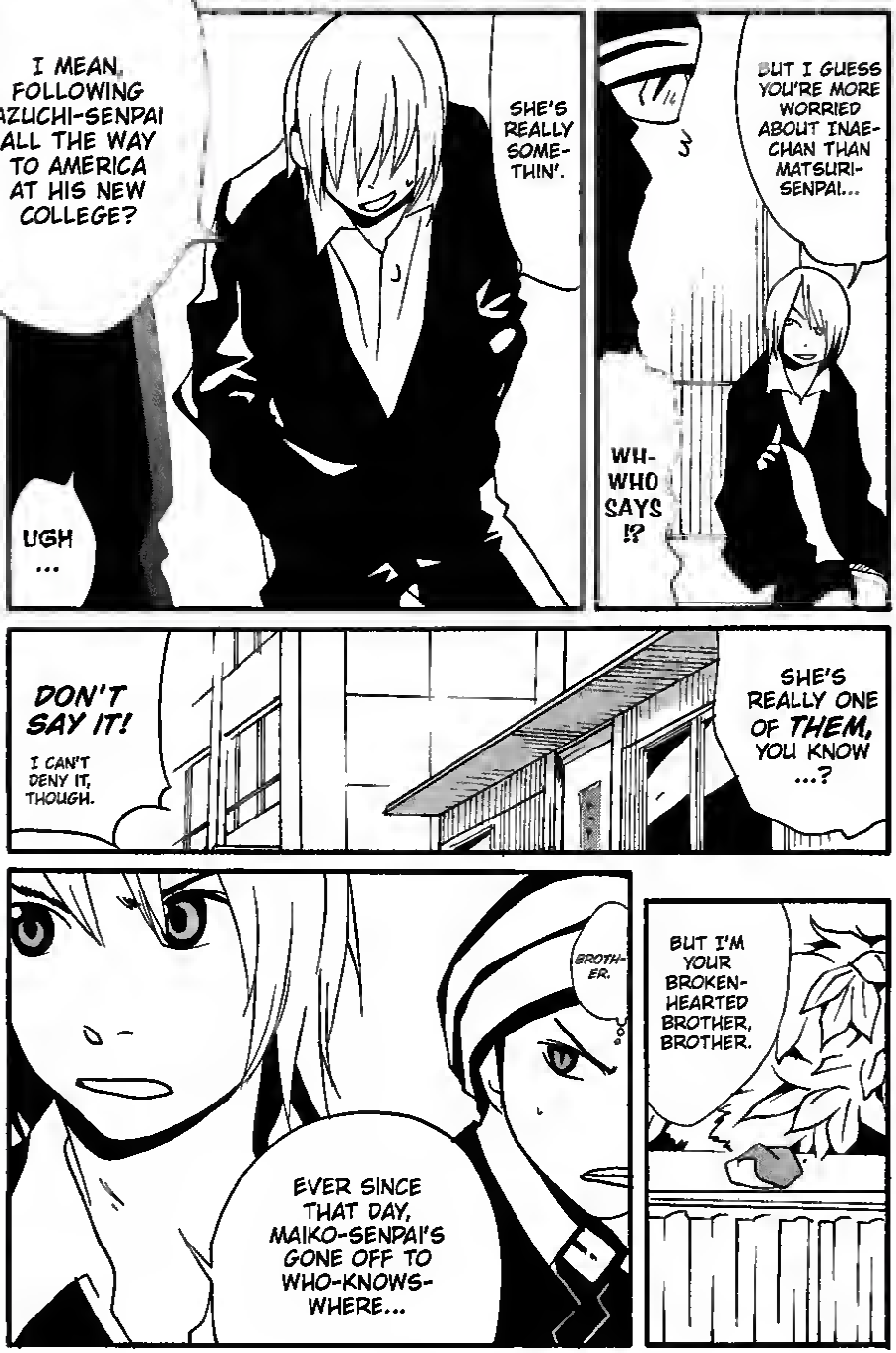
...TO CELEBRATE...

...TO CELEBRATE...

TODAY WE ARE HERE...
TODAY WE ARE HERE...
AND THEN, TWO MONTHS AND A FEW DAYS LATER...
...TO CELEBRATE ...
TO CELEBRATE ...

SIGN: SHIGA PREFECTURE, CHIKUBUSHIMA HIGH SCHOOL, GRADUATION CEREMONY
...GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL!!
滋賀県立竹生島高校
卒業式会場
...THE BIG BOYS' AND GIRLS'...
...THE BIG BOYS' AND GIRLS'...
NAGA-HAMA.
SIGN: SOCCER CLUB, GRAFFITI IDIOTS, LOVE AZUCHI-SENPAI

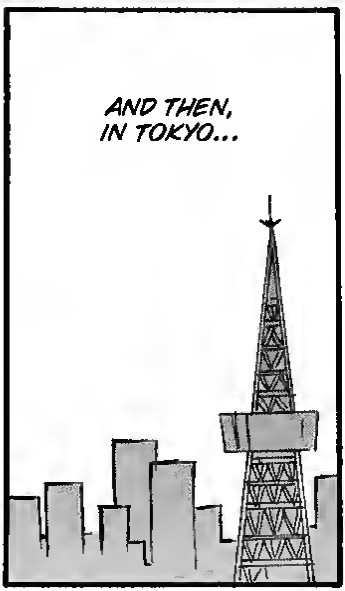
NOPE!
PAIN IN THE ASS.
PASHI
YOU AREN'T GOIN' TO THE GRADUATION?
PASHI (TOK)
I WONDER WHERE HE WENT...
I DON'T KNOW. AND I DON'T CARE!!
AND NOW MATSURI-SENPAI'S GONE OFF SOMEWHERE AGAIN...
PASHI (TOK)
BA (KICK)

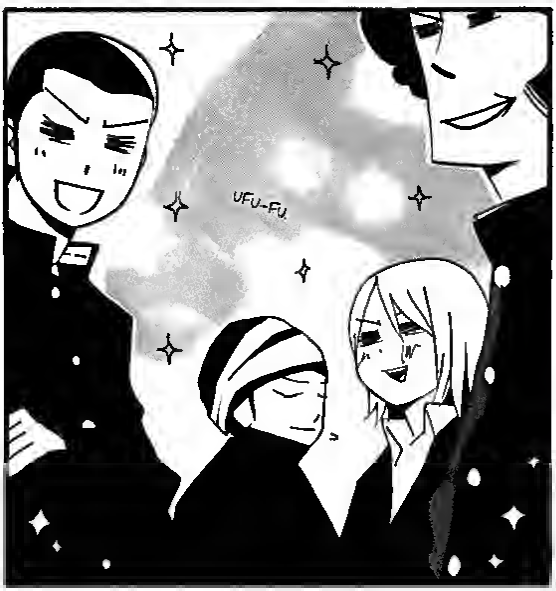

I MEAN, FOLLOWING AZUCHI-SENPAI ALL THE WAY TO AMERICA AT HIS NEW COLLEGE?
UGH ...
SHE'S REALLY SOME-THIN'.
BUT I GUESS YOU'RE MORE WORRIED ABOUT INAE-CHAN THAN MATSURI-SENPAI...
WH-WHO SAYS !?
DON'T SAY IT!
I CAN'T DENY IT, THOUGH.
SHE'S REALLY ONE OF THEM, YOU KNOW ...?
EVER SINCE THAT DAY, MAIKO-SENPAI'S GONE OFF TO WHO-KNOWS-WHERE...
BROTH-ER.
BUT I'M YOUR BROKEN-HEARTED BROTHER, BROTHER.

IT'S LIKE EVERYONE IS FALLING APART.
AND ONCE AGAIN, MAIBARA-SENPAI'S STOPPED COMING TO SCHOOL...
SFX: KIIN (DIIING) KOON (DOONG) KAAN (DAANG) KOON
キーン コーン カーン コーン
HMM... SOUNDS LIKE THE GRADUATION CEREMONY IS OVER...
...WHEN YOU LOOK BACK, THESE PAST FEW MONTHS WERE CRAZY.
FUNNY...
WHAT ARE YOU DELINQUENTS DOING OUT HERE?
HEYA.
THAT'S TOO MUCH HAIR, ANTON.
BOX: NARA GREEN TEA MILK

PIKOOO!!
DOODLE-DOO!
WE HAD THAT PRACTICE MATCH WITH KUSATSU HIDARI...
THE CHICKEN POPPED OUT OF THE GROUND IN THE CORNER...
MAIBARA JOINED THE SQUAD...
SHAPE UP IDIOTS!
YOU'RE ALL TRASH!!
WE FOUND OUT HOW VICIOUS NAGAHAMA COULD BE...
AND DON'T FORGET THE CONSPIRACY OF THE GLASSES CLAN!!
THAT NEVER HAP-PENED!!
WHO COULD? AND WHEN WE FOUND OUT HINO-SENPAI WAS THE GLASSES PRINCESS!
WE HAD FUN AT CULTURE FESTIVAL ~
HUH? WHEN WAS THIS?
YEP REMEMBER HOW BAD MATSURI-SENPAI'S TAKOYAKI WAS?
PRINCE! WHERE IS MY PRINCE!?
INAE-CHAN WAS KIDNAPPED ...
NO WAY.

...AND WE SHIPPED OUT FOR THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.
☆
AND BIGGEST OF ALL, WE WON THE PREFECTURAL TOURNAMENT...
10

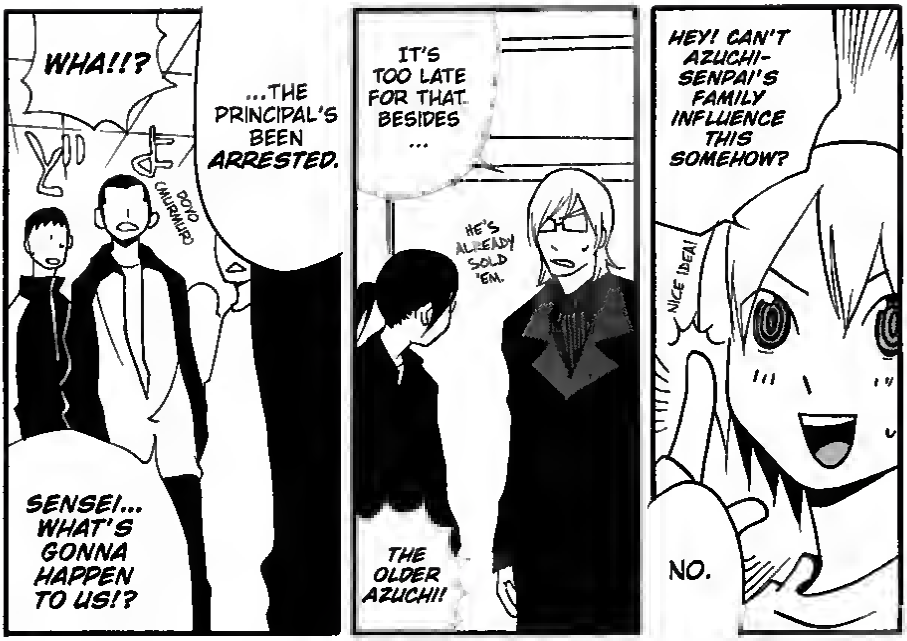

AND THEN, IN TOKYO...

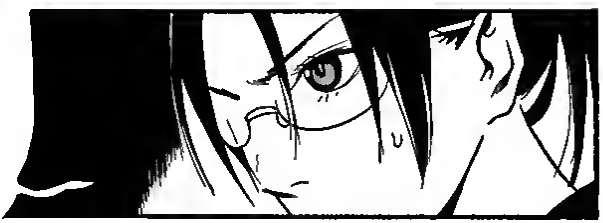

UFU-FU.

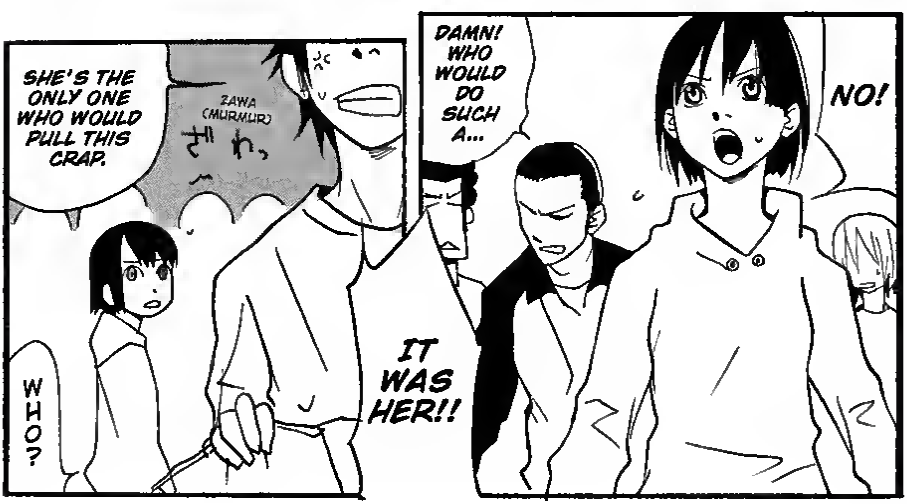
.....
.....
HOW ARE THERE SO MANY REPORTERS HERE!?
...OUR PRINCIPAL GOT ARRESTED!!
PASHA
SIR!
PASHA (CLICK)
ANY COMMENTS!?
MUTTER, MUTTER..
DON (THUD)
THAT DAY...
HEY, GUYS!!
BAN (WHAM)
DA A"A"A"A (STOMP)
I'VE GOT UNBE-WEAV-ABLE NEWS!!!
WEAVE?
GNYAAA!
IT'S TIME FOR THE "WEAVE YOUR WAY IN WITH THE LADIES" PLAN TO DEPLOY!
WELL, TOMORROW'S OUR BIG NATIONAL DEBUT! ☆
THE EVE OF THE FIRST ROUND...
高等学校
一里塚
SIGN: HIGH-CLASS JOINT, ICHIRIZUKA M

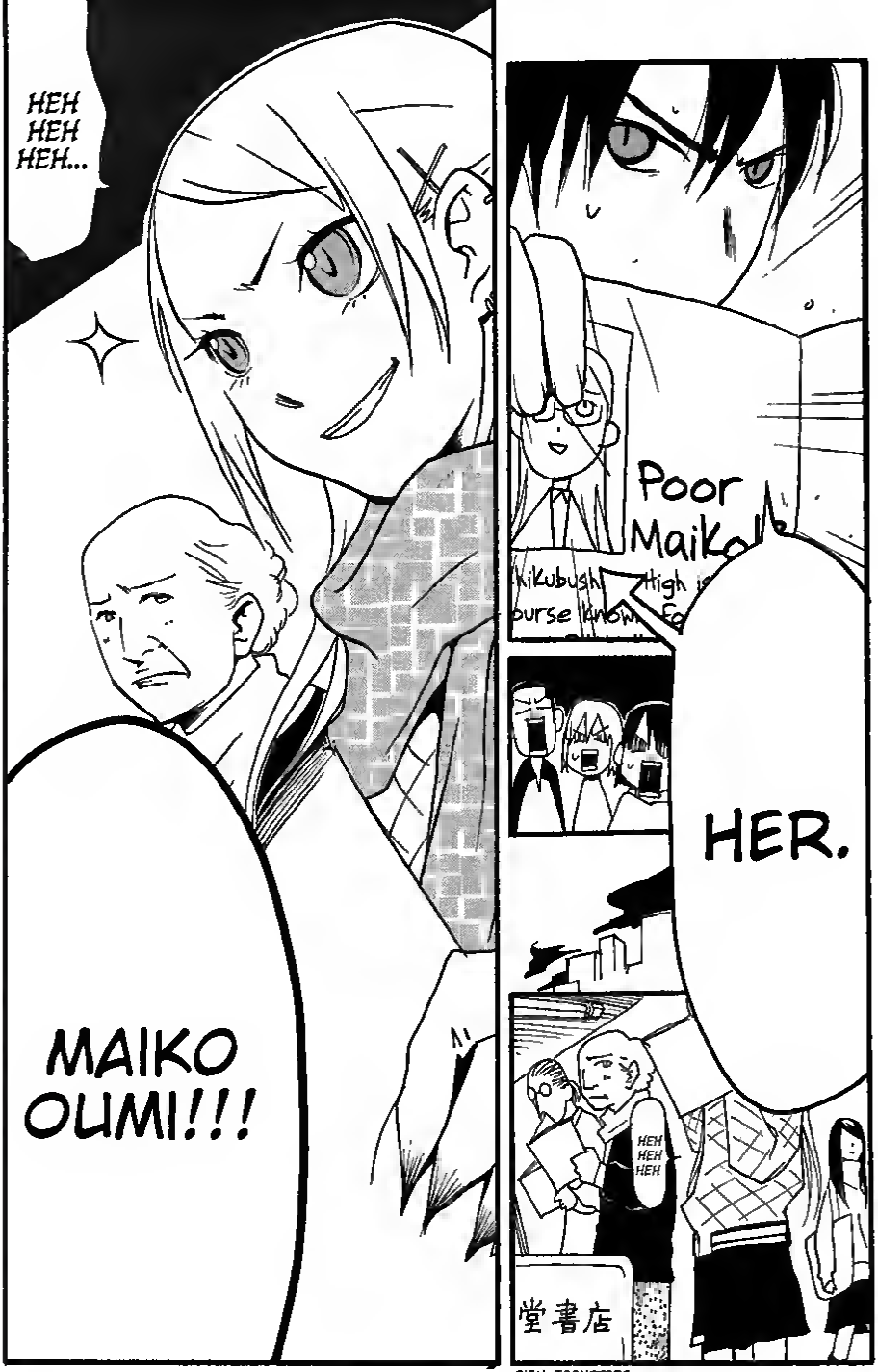
BAGA (FLAP)
LOOK AT THIS!!!
Dark Dealings Between Shiga's Chikubu-shima High Principal and Captain!!
Princeal Tinchi Kuri (58) making deal with Captain Yaki (28) on the shores of Lake Biwa after game.
HIDEOUS! SHOCKING! DEMONIC!
It's a sad filthy world out there
An institution of thuggery!! Dyed hair, perms, smoking on motorcycles, violence and terror!! A team captain with brazenly flowing, unshorn locks! A neurotic, paranoid stalker for a manager! A former gang member and tyrant of the streets for a team adviser!
Complete Sasameke omnibus volumes 1 and 2 now available! Brought to you monthly by Shonen Ace!
Poor Maiko!?
Chikubushima high is of course known for its beautiful, brilliant poet, Maiko ours. All accounts suggest that this scandal has scarred her fragile soul most dreadfully...
Right toys for the brilliant but fickle midfielder in the hopes of motivating him! And in the process of buying these toys, now quite the rage—err, once quite the rage—he finally committed the cardinal sin of reaching into school funds! The boy's hobby drove him to seek ultra-rare and high-priced items which proved quite difficult to procure.
TASTE OF SCHOOL FUNDS.
IT'S ALL OVER THE PAPERS !!!!
TH-THESE PHOTOS...
...IS THIS GAR-BAGE !?
WHAT THE HELL ...
IT'S NATIONAL NEWS, YOU GUYS!
RUMOR MILL
OH NOOOES!
IS MATSURI HERE?
GATAN (THUNK)
SENSEI!

HE WAS BOUGHT OUT BY THE PRINCIPAL ...
WHAT!?
YES, SIR!
HE'S NOT HERE! SEARCH THE AREA!
SEN-SEI!
THE POLICE?
BAS-TARD
HUH? NO, WHERE IS HE?
EVEN HIS STUFF IS GONE!!
IT WAS ALL FOR THE SAKE OF HIS STUPID TOYS...
YOU KNOW THAT UNCHARAC-TERISTIC BIT OF GUNG-HO ENTHUSIASM?
LET'S GO, BOY.
ATTENTION, PLEASE
THAT... MAKES FRIGHTENING SENSE...


WHA!!?
...THE PRINCIPAL'S BEEN ARRESTED.
BOYO (MURMUR)
SENSEI... WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO US!?
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT. BESIDES ...
HE'S ALREADY SOLD 'EM.
THE OLDER AZUCHI!
HEY! CAN'T AZUCHI-SENPAI'S FAMILY INFLUENCE THIS SOMEHOW?
NICE IDEA!
NO.


COULD BE KICKED OUT OF THE TOURNAMENT... WORST CASE, THE CLUB COULD BE DISMANTLED...


SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO WOULD PULL THIS CRAP.
ZAWA (MURMUR)
WHO?
DAMN! WHO WOULD DO SUCH A...
NO!
IT WAS HER!!



SIGN. BOOKSTORE

IT'S ALL COMING BACK. I REMEMBER HER SAYING...
HEH HEH HEH.
THAT'S STEP ONE, IN THE BOOKS.
SUCH STRANGE GLOVES. CHILDREN THESE DAYS!
...THAT SHE WAS GONNA DESTROY THE SOCCER TEAM AND GET ALL THE MEMBERS ON HER JOURNALISM CLUB!
UMM, WHAT!?
IT WAS ON P78 OF VOLUME 1!
AND THEN, WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE, I'LL ABSORB ALL OTHER CLUBS INTO JOURNALISM, AND THEN OUR SCHOOL...
AND THERE WOULD BE NO MEANING TO ANY OF IT. ★
BUT AFTER THAT...
...
...WILL HAVE NOTHING BUT MY BRILLIANT NEWSPAPER LEFT!

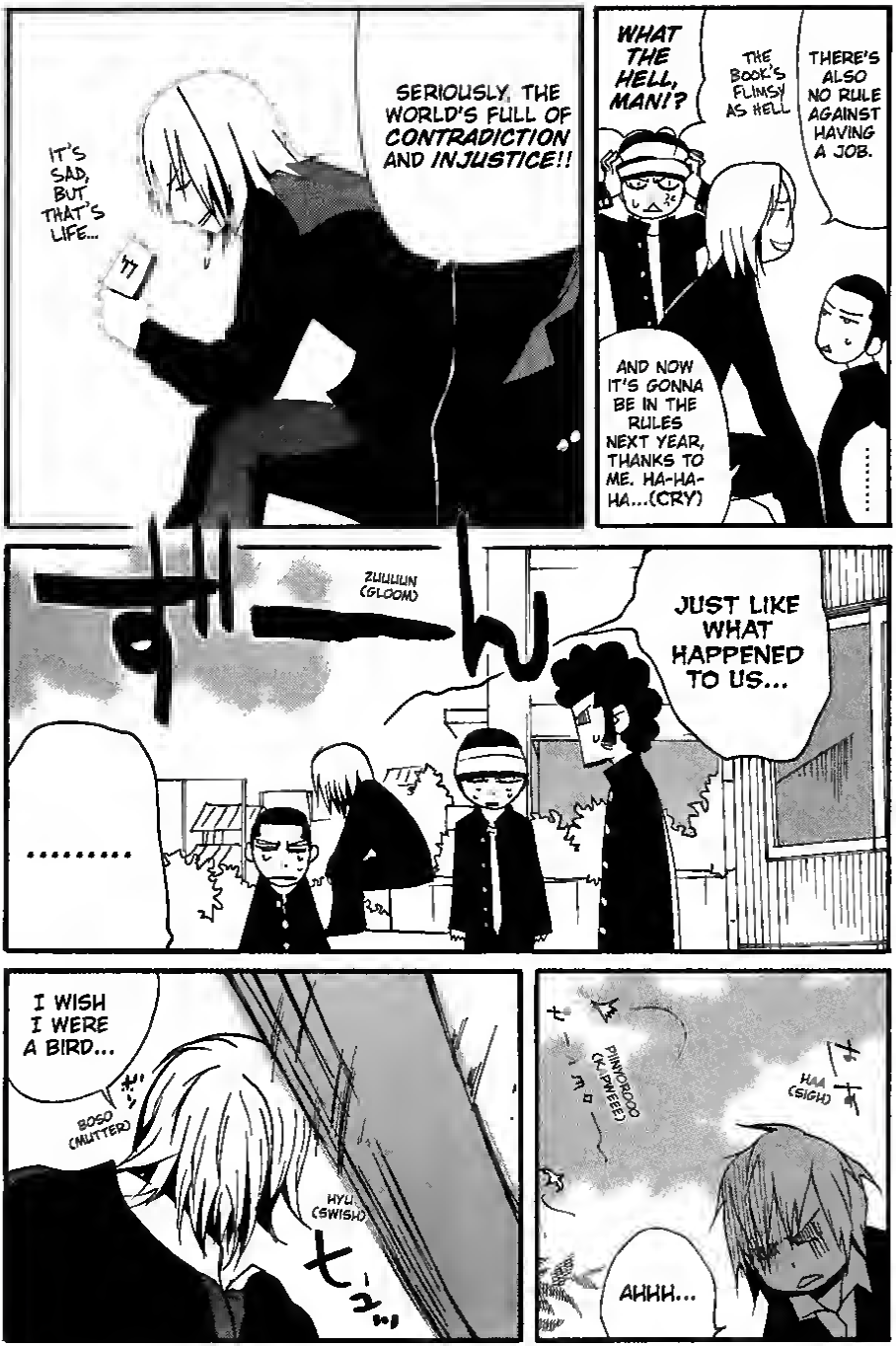
...I'LL TAKE OVER THE ENTIRE COUNTRY!!
...AT SOME POINT...
KYUPIIIN (SPARKLE)
AND WHY WOULD SHE...
...DO SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
WHY WOULD I DO THIS? BECAUSE...
GOOO (WHOOSH)
RAHHH!
GOOOOOO
...THAT'S MY IDEA OF ROCK'N'ROLL!!

...IT WAS JUST ONE OF THOSE WINTERS FOR US...
AND...
.....
.....
HEY! LOOK, THE SOCCER TEAM IS HOWLING AGAIN.
HOW PATHETIC.
AWOOOO!
WHAT KIND ...
...IS THAT!?

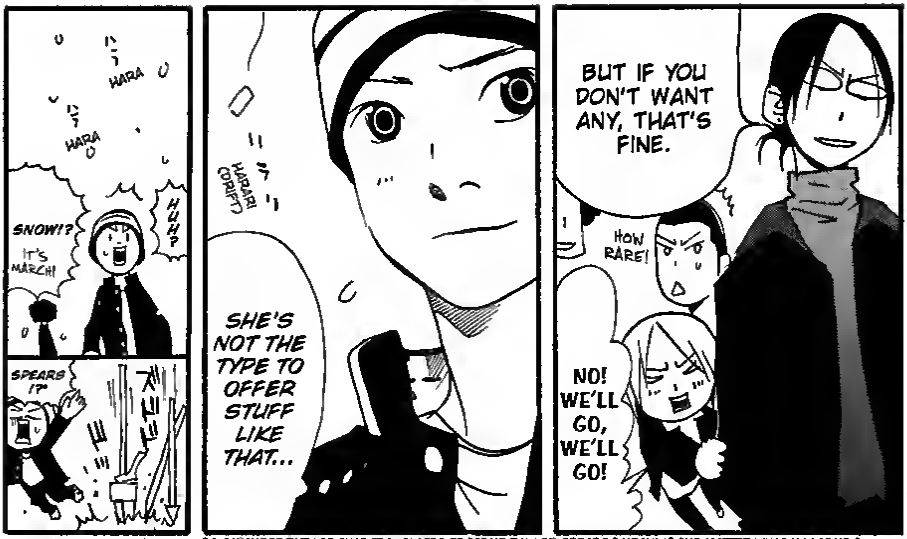
YEAH. I GUESS THAT PART LIVES UP TO THE DREAM BILLING.
BUT STEEL, WE GO TO NATIONAL TOURNAMENT? GOOD DREAM, NO?
OH, SHUT UP.
SIGH... IF ONLY WE COULD WAKE UP AND FIND OUT IT WAS ALL A BAD DREAM.
GOOD POINT. IF IT HAD BEEN A DREAM...
THE WORST!
IT WAS ALL BALD REALITY— INCLUDING THE INDEFINITE SUSPENSION OF CLUB ACTIVITIES!!

THERE'S YOUR LESSON DON'T SMOKE!
I HAVEN'T SMOKED! NOT SINCE THEY CAUGHT ME!!
SUPO (YANK)
BAKAAA!!
AH.
!!
*RAKUICHI
...THEN YOU WOULDN'T BE LOOKING LIKE THIS.
YOU WERE RIDING A MOTORCYCLE!
BESIDES, WHY DID MY HEAD GET SHAVED, BUT YOU'RE JUST FINE!?
THE TEACHERS LIKE TO SAY IT'S AGAINST THE RULES, BUT THEY'RE JUST TALKING.
LOOK IN THE HANDBOOK!
AS A MATTER OF FACT, OUR SCHOOL DOESN'T HAVE A RULE AGAINST RIDING MOTORCYCLES!
HEH HEH.
NO WAY!

BOOK. STUDENT HANDBOOK - CHIKUBUSHIMA

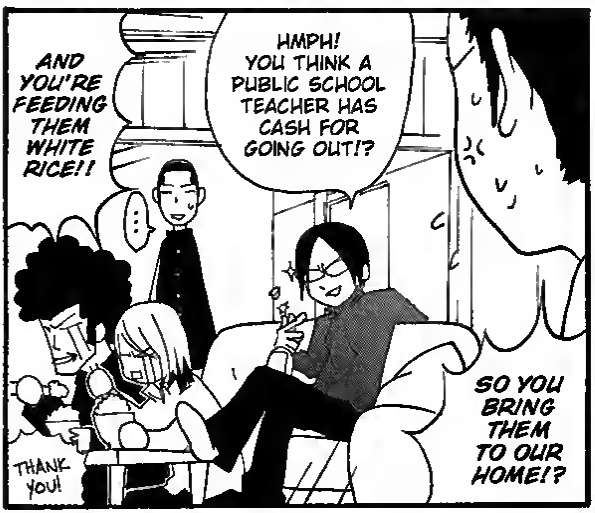

SERIOUSLY, THE WORLD'S FULL OF CONTRADICTION AND INJUSTICE!!
IT'S SAD, BUT THAT'S LIFE...
WHAT THE HELL, MAN!?
THE BOOK'S FLIMSY AS HELL
THERE'S ALSO NO RULE AGAINST HAVING A JOB.
AND NOW IT'S GONNA BE IN THE RULES NEXT YEAR, THANKS TO ME. HA-HA-HA...(CRY)
.....
ZUUUUN (GLOOM)
JUST LIKE WHAT HAPPENED TO US...
.....
I WISH I WERE A BIRD...
BOSO (MUTTER)
HYU (SWISH)
HAA (SIGH)
PIINYOROOO (K-PWEEE)
AHHH...

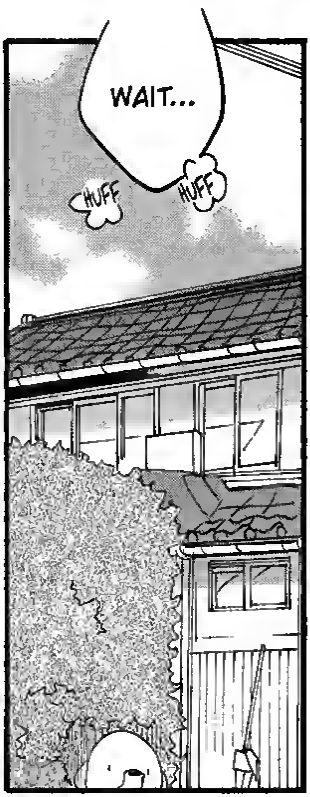
HOW LONG ARE YOU TOOLS GONNA DRAG THIS ONE BEHIND YOU!?
BUT ...
SACK UP, DAMMIT!
BUT ...
BUT ...
SUPAKONNN (THWAKK)
YOU FREAKIN' 'TARD!
WHOA!
THANK YOU, MA'AM!
.....
C'MON, I'LL BUY YOU SOME FOOD.
GEEZ, ALL RIGHT.
HUH?

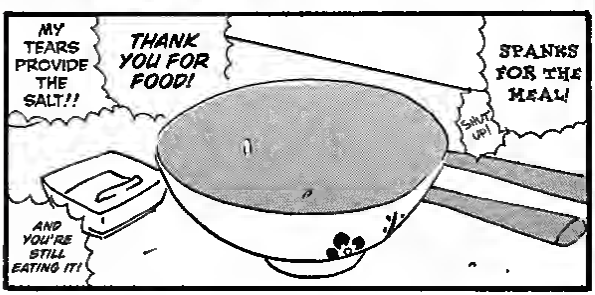


SFX. ZUDO (THUD) DO DO

*A JAPANESE PHRASE THAT TRANSLATES TO "COME RAIN OR SPEARS," MEANING "NO MATTER WHAT MAY COME."


AND YOU'RE FEEDING THEM WHITE RICE!!
HMPH! YOU THINK A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER HAS CASH FOR GOING OUT!?
SO YOU BRING THEM TO OUR HOME!?
THANK YOU!





WE PRACTICALLY HAD TO KIDNAP YOU TO GET YOU ON THE SOCCER TEAM...
...AND YOU WERE THE ANGRIEST OF ALL WHEN THE TEAM GOT SUSPENDED. (HA!)
IT'S A FUNNY THING, NAGA-HAMA.
WHAT?
.....
HEH.
DON'T LAUGH, YOU-KA-ICHI!
SH-SHUT UP!
BWA HA
HA
HA!
YOU KNOW?
NOW, WHERE IS REMOTE...
AH HA HA HA!
FORGET IT! WHO CARES ABOUT SOCCER ANY-WAY!?
GOGO (RUSTLE)
GOGO
BY DE WAY, TODAY IS CHAMPIONS LEAGUE DAY, IS NO?

YOUR TURN.
BOO-
BOO-
MOZO
MOZO (RUSTLE)
Wait, Barcelona's bench is stirring. They're about to make a sub.
Boo—!!
We're twenty minutes into the second half, still no score.
HEY, BARCELONA VS. MILAN!
YUN CVNNO
AND CLEAR. ★
WAAH!
WAAH!
That was tough for Milan
Boo—!!
4
Boo—!!
It appears to be #4...
And just listen to the booing! My goodness!
EIGH-TEEN ...
Needless to say, this is quite a risky move in such a tense game.
As a matter of fact, he's only just turned eighteen! Fresh-faced, indeed.
This is a new member the club picked up in January during the transaction period.
WAAH!
BOO—
Boo—!!
ROOKIE, HUH?
BOOO—
Boo—!!
HE'S ASIAN?

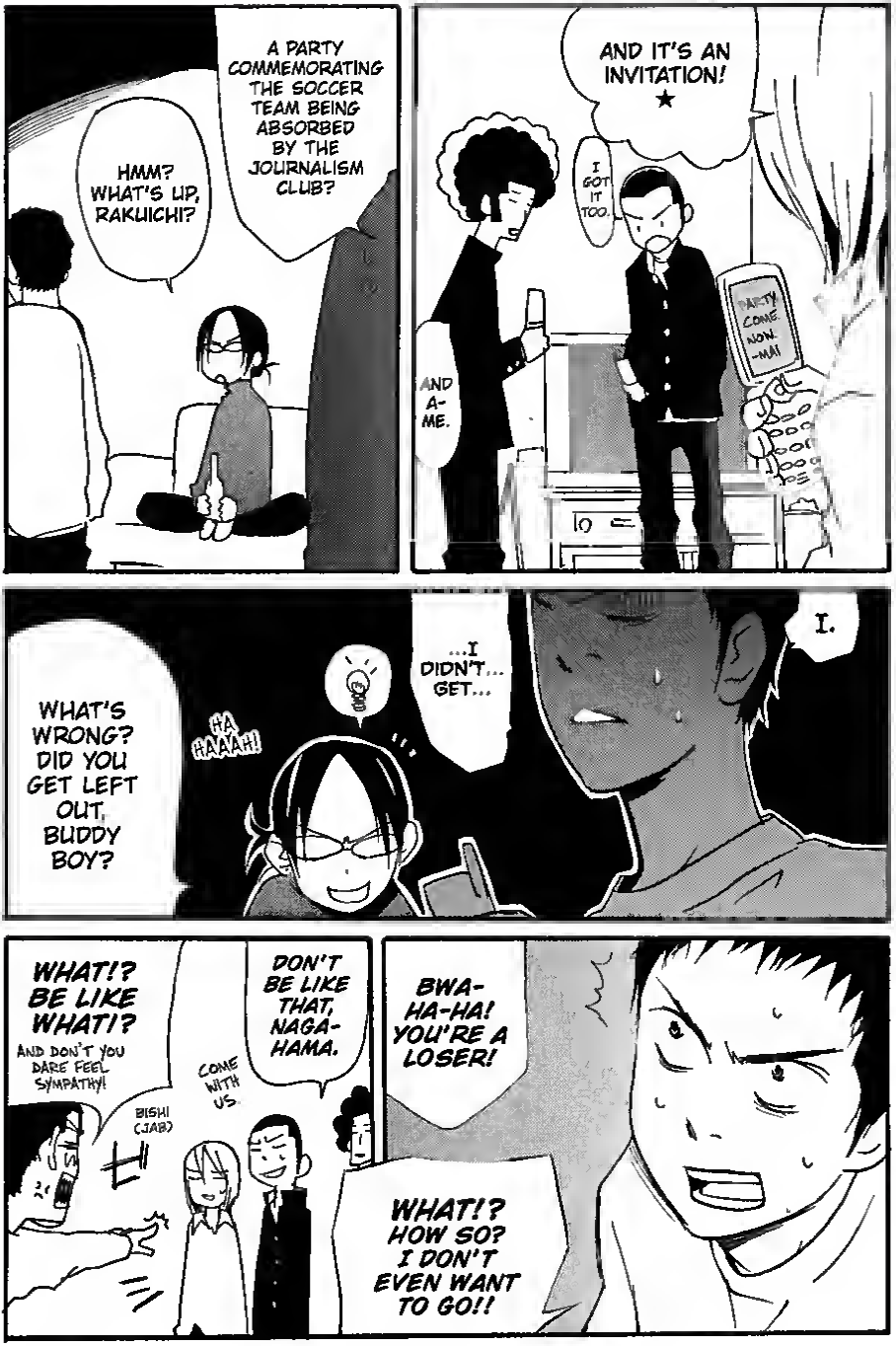
WHAAAT!?
TWEET!
HEY, IT'S MATSUR!!
WHA!?
ARE YOU KIDDING!?
WHA!?
EEEHHHHHH!!?
WAAH!
WAAH!
What kind of tricks does he have up his young sleeve!?
BOOO!
RATTT!
BOOO!
BOOO!
BOOO!
(BUHH! COINK)
GET OUTTA HERE, KID!!
TOWEL.
(DON (BOOM)
And here's his grand debut: #4, Festa Hikiyama!!

And the ball's already in his possession!
ZA (ZSHH)
WHY!?
NA-TSURI-SEN-PAI!!?
NII (GRIN)
二イ
He's near the goal!
!!
WHOA!!
HE PASSED THE GUY UP!
PASHI (PSHHT)
He shoots!!

Not even one minute after his substitution!
THAT WAS FAST!!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME!?
NO WAY!
PASA (THWAP)
He scores!!
The team president is overjoyed!
BRAVO!!
HOORAY!
I KNEW HE WOULD COME THROUGH
KU! (DOWN)
BEAUTIFUL HAIR.
NICE HAIR.
WAAH!
NO SWEAT!!
First-time jitters? Not this kid! Look, he's taunting the opponent!
A very calm and rational play, taking the goalkeeper's position into account.

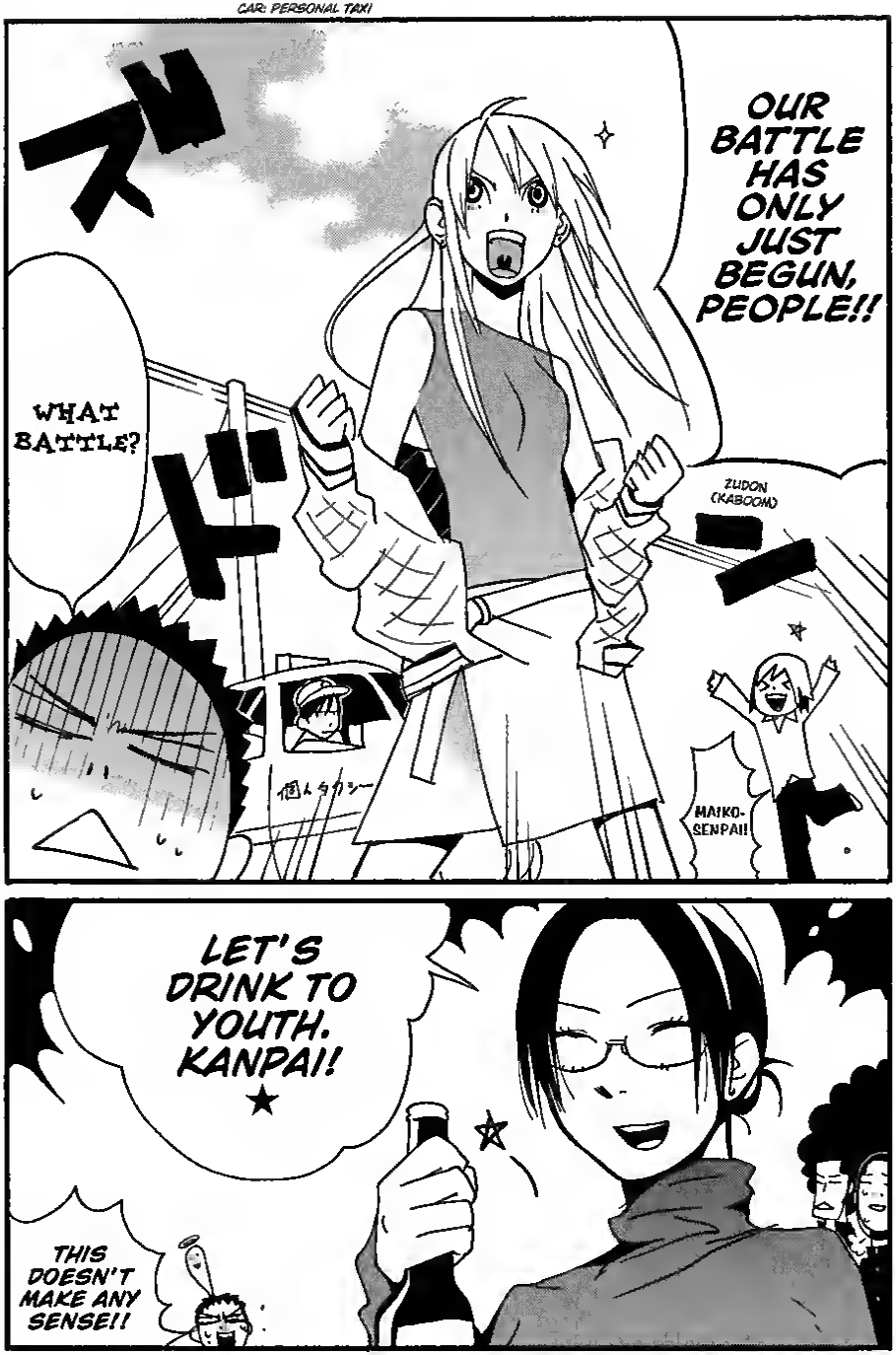
THAT'S MY MATSURI!
HE FREAKIN' WAY...
YOU SQUIRTS GOT A LOT TO LIVE UP TO! ★
HIC!
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
AND THAT'S THE END OF THE MATCH. AFTER THIS BREAK, WE'LL LOOK AT HIGHLIGHTS.
S-SENPAI IS WALKING ON THE FIELD... SURROUNDED BY BRAZILIAN AND SPANISH NATIONAL PLAYERS...
Kai-sorry, senpai
Whoops, there's a yellow...
HA HA!
GAB!!! (SHOCK)
IS THIS AN ELABORATE PRANK?
SFX: PHIPIPPIIII (PWEEET)
GRRR...
SAME TO YOU, RAKUICHI!
WHA!?
LOOK AT THAT!
OH, STOP YOUR SHRIEK-ING!
SO, HE JUMPS STRAIGHT OVER NATIONAL SOCCER TO THE WORLD STAGE!?
UGH!
STAGE.
..TAGE..
AGE

Packed full of minus ions!!!
What's the microwave to use? Ask Maiko! ★
I'M A HORSE.
BRILLIANT!
IT'S THE "MAIKROWAVE"!
MODEL MAIBARA-KUN
MODEL MAIKO-CHAN
U M A
Buy the damn thing!
MAIRUSHI
BAN (WHAM)
!?
WHAT THE HELL!?
MORE PRANKS?
MAIKO-SENPAI!!
AND MAI-BARA
SAID THEY WERE GONNA BE FAMOUS...
ACTUALLY, I HEARD THEY GOT SCOUTED WHEN WE WERE IN TOKYO...
URRP!
HUH!?
PIRURURURUU (RRRING)
OH!
LOOK, A TEXT FROM A CELEBRITY!
PI (BEEP)
PI PI PI
PI PI PI


A PARTY COMMEMORATING THE SOCCER TEAM BEING ABSORBED BY THE JOURNALISM CLUB?
HMM? WHAT'S UP, RAKUICHI?
AND IT'S AN INVITATION! ★
I GOT IT TOO.
AND A-ME.
PARTY COME NOW -MAI
I.
...I DIDN'T... GET...
HA HAAAH!
WHAT'S WRONG? DID YOU GET LEFT OUT, BUDDY BOY?
BWA-HA-HA! YOU'RE A LOSER!
WHAT!? HOW SO? I DON'T EVEN WANT TO GO!!
DON'T BE LIKE THAT, NAGA-HAMA.
COME WITH US.
WHAT!? BE LIKE WHAT!?
AND DON'T YOU DARE FEEL SYMPATHY!
BISHI (JAB)

UWAAH!
YOU WANT THE RAW, HONEST TRUTH!? I'M NOT JEALOUS AT ALL, YOU DUMB-DUMBS!!
POOH TO YOU!
Ykc
DA COSHH
WHAT A BABY
BWA HA HA!
THE GUY'S A REAL PIECE OF WORK. (HA!)
WHERE'S HE GOING?
SHEESH...
I'LL SHOW YOU GUYS!
SOMEDAY... SOMEDAY I'M GONNA BE SOMEBODY!!

JARGH!!!
AND THEN I'M GONNA SHOW MATSURI AND AZUCHI AND MAIKO, AND THEY'RE GONNA REGRET IT!!
ZUDA (STOMP)
DA
DA
DA
DA
RAHHH!!
AH!
WHOA.
DON (BOOM)
ACK!
WHOA!!
HEH-HEH. AHH, TO BE YOUNG AGAIN.
KYUPON (POP)
TIME FOR A DRINK
WHAT'S SHE TALK-ING ABOUT?
KIKII (SCREECH)
GACHA (CLICK)
SU (SWISH)


OUR BATTLE HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN, PEOPLE!!
WHAT BATTLE?
ZUDON (KABOOM)
MAIKO-SENPAI!
LET'S DRINK TO YOUTH. KANPAI! ★
THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE!!

MANGA PREVIEW

SASAMEKE IS COMPLETE! BUT WAIT, SOMETHING ELSE IS STARTING.

▶ SO ANYWAY, THE CONTINUATION (NAKI?) IS IN "SHONEN ACE" EVERY MONTH! (ENGLISH EDITION NOT AVAILABLE)

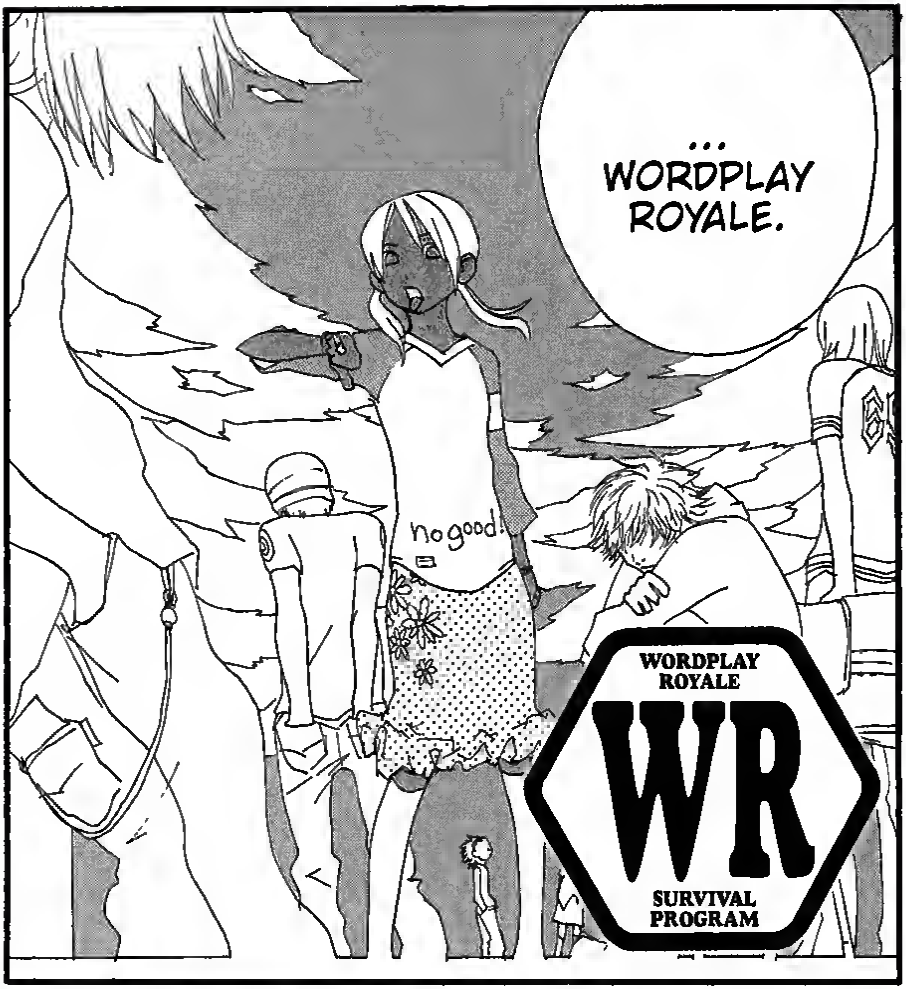
*TSUCHINOKO: A MONSTER FROM JAPANESE FOLKLORE THAT TAKES THE FORM OF A VERY WIDE SNAKE, WITH A BODY ALMOST LIKE A CROCODILE WITHOUT LIMBS.

THE AUTHOR BLEATS

WHISPERS OF YOUTH ❺ "WORDPLAY ROYALE"

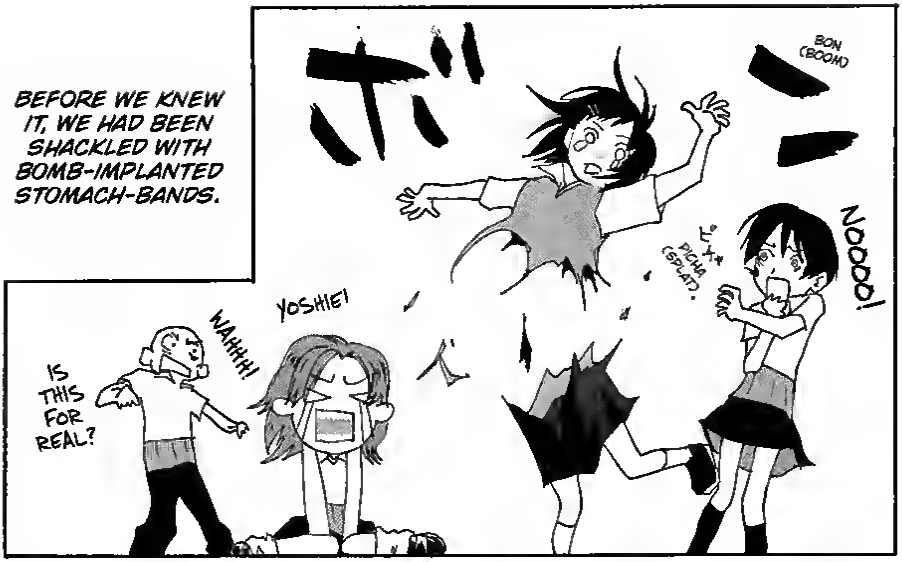
This is actuslly something I drew before "Sassmeki 6 ~ Knockin' on Hssven's Door ~" (which sppesred in the "Sssameki" short story collection), snd though I don't think enyons cares, this "Wordpley Royale" is ectuslly #6. The issue that "Knockin'" sppeared in the msgazins, I was ever so fortunate enough to be allowed to run a sscond story mere dsys before my deadline, so I slspped togsthsr this rush-job in time for that. I actually forgot to put my own nams on it. A smell nots: if I might bs so presumptuous ss to say this, I think the strength of puns is in their timing, rethsr thsn their cleverness.

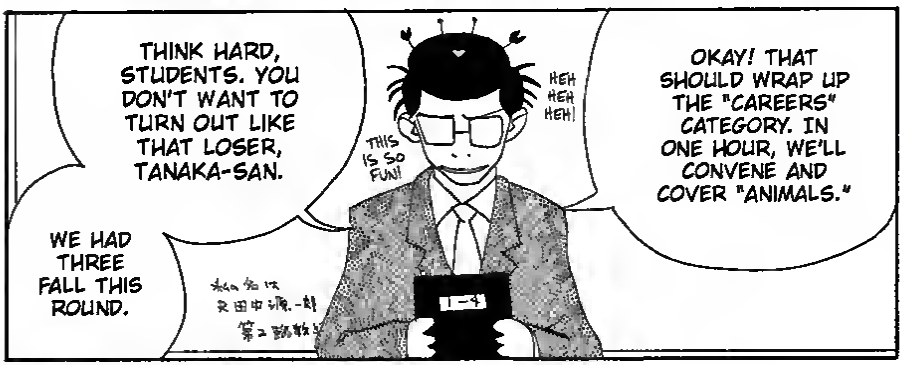
WHISPERS OF YOUTH SERIES
PART 5
IT HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY ...
BUT THIS IS MERELY BECAUSE WE ADULTS HAVE BEEN NEGLIGENT!!
SU (SWISH)
YOU KIDS ARE INSANE!
BOARDS, WE LAW
WE'RE GOING TO PUT A BRAND-NEW SPECIAL TEACHING CURRICULUM INTO PRACTICE TODAY! ITS NAME IS...
BAN (WHAM)
BUT HAVE NO FEAR; THE TIME HAS COME!


...
WORDPLAY
ROYALE.
no good
WORDPLAY
ROYALE
WR
SURVIVAL
PROGRAM

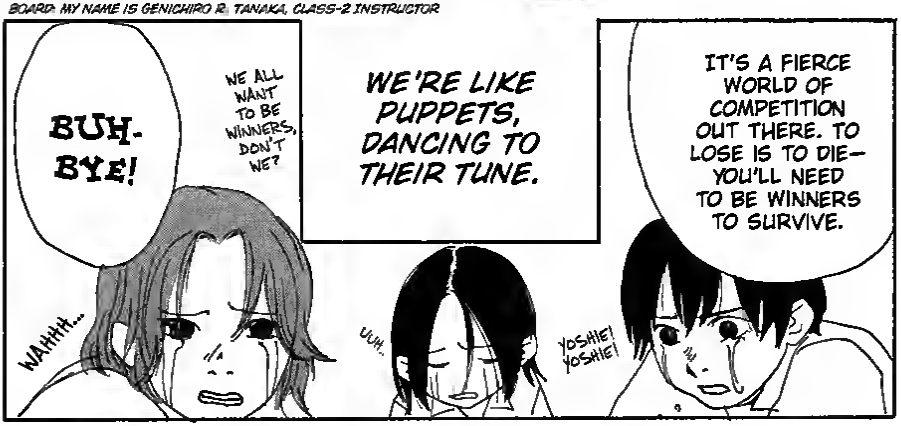
IT WAS LIKE A
NIGHTMARE.

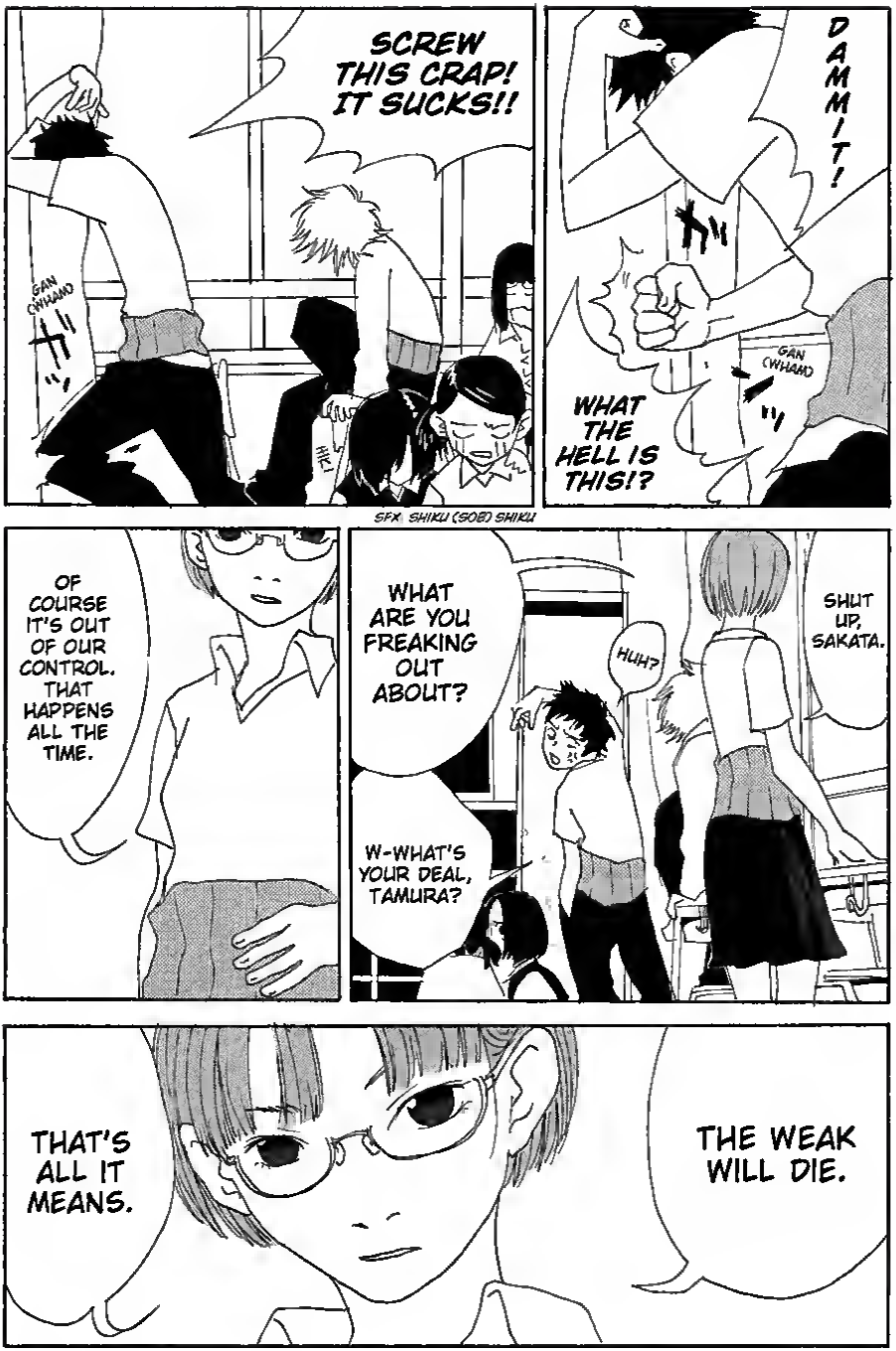
MY DAD WAS A BAKER— HE KNEADED THE DOUGH!
H-HERE I GO!
I TRIED TO FIND GOLD—IT DIDN'T PAN OUT!
URRGH!
SEVEN DAYS WITHOUT FOOD MAKES ONE WEAK!
RAWRR!
UMM!
THE CLOCK WAS HUNGRY— IT WENT BACK FOUR SECONDS!
TAKE THAT!
RAA
HGR
UMM... UMM...
Y-YOU CAN'T PUT ME ON THE SPOT LIKE THIS!
UM... I...ER... WELL... I...I...
COME ON, YOSHIE! HURRY!
KYU (SQUEEZE)
OOPS! TIME'S UP.
YOU'RE UP NEXT, TANAKA-SAN.
HEH-HEH. GOOD LITTLE CHILDREN.
BISHI (JAB)
IKU (TWITCH)
HUH?

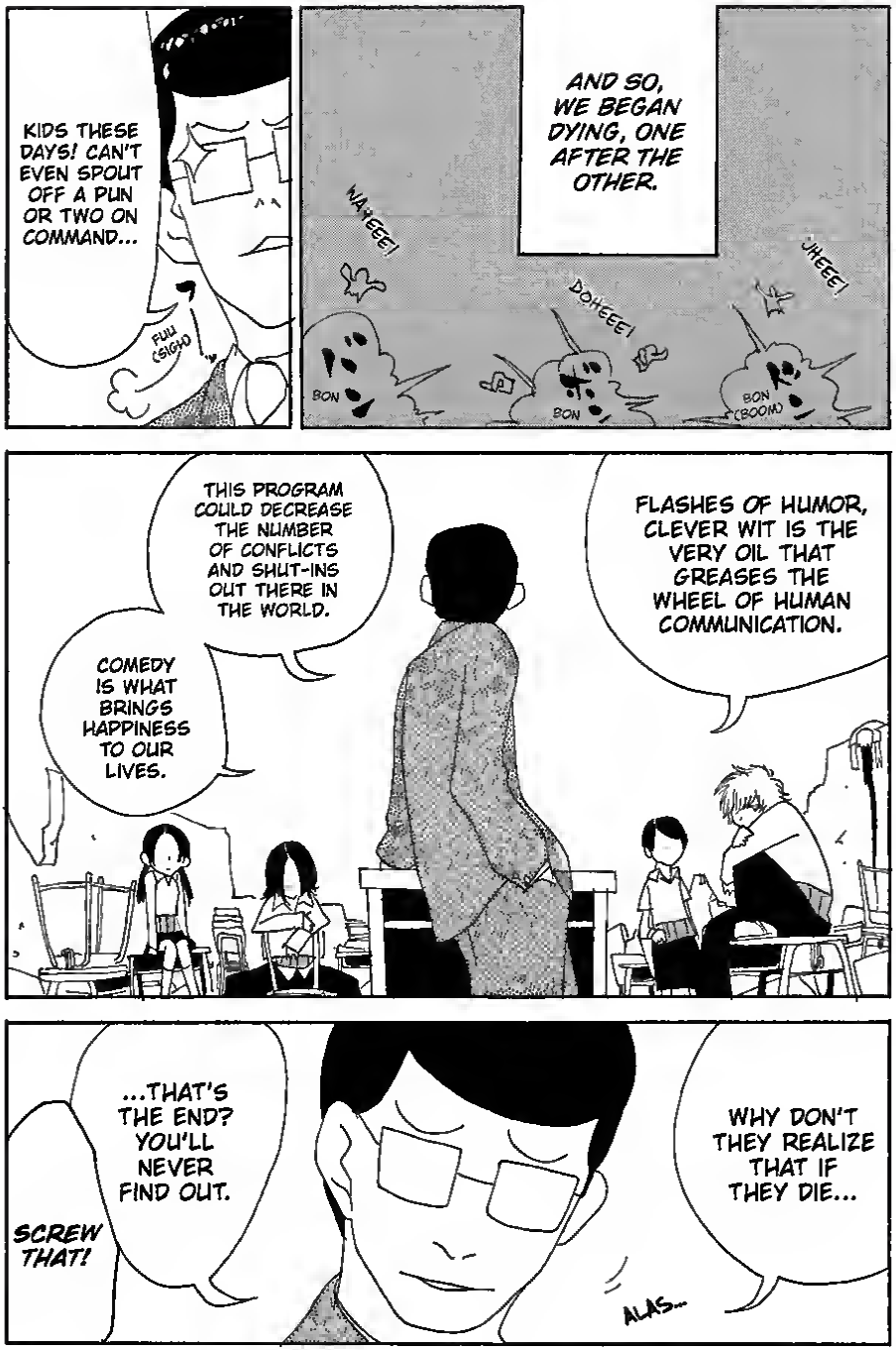



THINK HARD, STUDENTS. YOU DON'T WANT TO TURN OUT LIKE THAT LOSER, TANAKA-SAN.
WE HAD THREE FALL THIS ROUND.
THIS IS SO FUN!
HEH HEH HEH!
OKAY! THAT SHOULD WRAP UP THE "CAREERS" CATEGORY. IN ONE HOUR, WE'LL CONVENE AND COVER "ANIMALS."

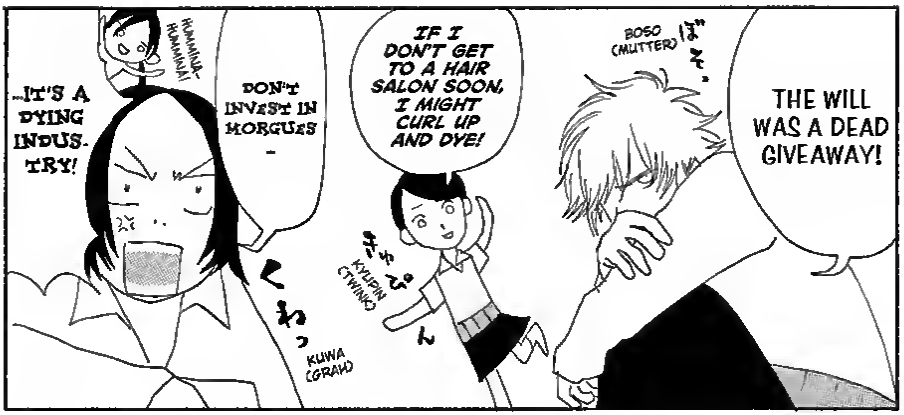
BOARD: MY NAME IS GENICHIRO R. TANAKA, CLASS-2 INSTRUCTOR


BUH-BYE!
WE ALL WANT TO BE WINNERS, DON'T WE?
WAHHH...
WE'RE LIKE PUPPETS, DANCING TO THEIR TUNE.
UUH.
IT'S A FIERCE WORLD OF COMPETITION OUT THERE. TO LOSE IS TO DIE— YOU'LL NEED TO BE WINNERS TO SURVIVE.
YOSHIE! YOSHIE!


SCREW THIS CRAP! IT SUCKS!!
GAN (WHAM)
HEY!
DAMMIT!
GAN (WHAM)
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?
SFX: SHIKU (SOB) SHIKU
OF COURSE IT'S OUT OF OUR CONTROL. THAT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.
WHAT ARE YOU FREAKING OUT ABOUT?
W-WHAT'S YOUR DEAL, TAMURA?
HUH?
SHUT UP, SAKATA.
THAT'S ALL IT MEANS.
THE WEAK WILL DIE.


KIDS THESE DAYS! CAN'T EVEN SPOUT OFF A PUN OR TWO ON COMMAND...
FUU (SIGH)
AND SO, WE BEGAN DYING, ONE AFTER THE OTHER.
WAHEEE!
DOHEEEE!
JIHEEE!
BON
BON
BON (BOOM)
THIS PROGRAM COULD DECREASE THE NUMBER OF CONFLICTS AND SHUT-INS OUT THERE IN THE WORLD.
COMEDY IS WHAT BRINGS HAPPINESS TO OUR LIVES.
FLASHES OF HUMOR, CLEVER WIT IS THE VERY OIL THAT GREASES THE WHEEL OF HUMAN COMMUNICATION.
...THAT'S THE END? YOU'LL NEVER FIND OUT.
SCREW THAT!
WHY DON'T THEY REALIZE THAT IF THEY DIE...
ALAS...

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS GOING TO ACCOM-PLISH?
YOU BETTER KNOCK OFF THIS BULLCRAP, TURD.
SAKATA-KUN?
YOU'RE ALIVE?
GARA (CLUNK)
...HAVE DIED OVER THIS!
PEO-PLE ...
BUT NOT ANYMORE! I'M GONNA BRING IT TO AN...
DOPAN (KAPOWW)
KACHI (CLICK)


...IT'S A DYING INDUS-TRY!
HUHUHUHA HUHUHUHA!
DON'T INVEST IN MORGUES -
IF I DON'T GET TO A HAIR SALON SOON, I MIGHT CURL UP AND DYE!
KUWA (GRAB)
KYUPIN (TWINK)
BOSO (MUTTER)
THE WILL WAS A DEAD GIVEAWAY!

SFX. GAKU (SLUMP) BURU (TREMBLE) BURU

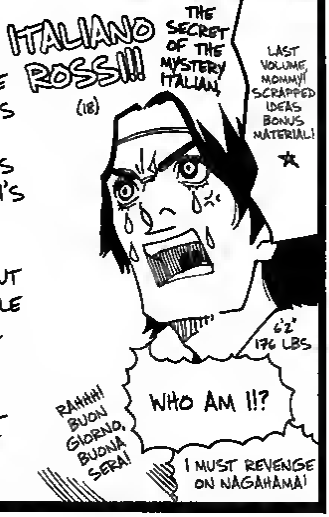
AFTERWORD

BOX: NARA GREEN TEA MILK, NARA PREFECTURE, NARA CITY, NARA UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

*DOGINA-SO: A PARODY ON TOKIWA-SO, A LEGENDARY APARTMENT BUILDING WHICH HOUSED A GROUP OF PROMINENT MANGAKA IN TOKYO IN THE 1950s, INCLUDING OSAMU TEZUKA, FUJIKO FUJIO, SHOTARO ISHINOMORI, AND SEVERAL OTHERS.

KAMPAAAI!
WATER
TEA
YAAAY!
CITY OF THE DAMNED AND UNDEAD SHINJUKU. THE HOME OF WEIRDS AND FREAKS. DOGINA-SO*
IT'S VOLUME FIVE!
WOO-HOO!
SSHK
I WILL TRY HARDER!!
ALSO, UMM,
THANK YOU TO ALL THE AMAZING ARTISTS WHO COMPLIMENTED THIS!
NEXT THING!!
THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?
AND OF COURSE, TO ALL THE READERS: THANK YOU.
THAT'S RIGHT
WELL, THERE'S A MOUNTAIN OF STUFF I THINK I COULD HAVE DONE BETTER (ACTUALLY, THAT'S ABOUT ALL OF IT...) BUT FOR MY VERY FIRST SERIAL TO LAST FOR FIVE WHOLE VOLUMES CAN BE DESCRIBED WITH NOTHING BUT GRATITUDE. AND SHOCK. TO EVERYONE WHOM I HAD TO COOPERATE WITH ON THIS VENTURE, I'M SORRY, AND THANK YOU.
SOB

ITALIANO ROSSI, THE FOREIGN DUDE I INTRODUCED AND ABANDONED. HE WAS A TEAMMATE OF RAKUICHI'S BACK IN ITALY. HE FELT A STRONG RIVALRY WITH RAKUICHI, THIS MOODY NEWCOMER FROM ABROAD. HE ALSO FELT A NEARNESS TO RAKUICHI BECAUSE HIS GRANDMOTHER WAS JAPANESE, BUT RAKUICHI'S STANDOFFISH PERSONALITY QUASHED ANY OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM TO BE FRIENDS. EVENTUALLY RAKUICHI LEFT FOR HOME WITHOUT THEM EVER REACHING A COMFORTABLE MIDDLE GROUND, SO THIS WEIRDO CHASED HIM ALL THE WAY BACK TO JAPAN. BY THE WAY, HE WAS ACTUALLY INTRODUCED IN MATSURI'S DEBUT GAME, BUT DUE TO SPACE RESTRICTIONS, I HAD TO CUT HIS PAGES. HE'LL BE A PROMISING PLAYER IN THE FUTURE.



SPECIAL VAULT QUIZ!! *MAIKO AND HER MAIKO MOM OFTEN SAY, "RAKUICHI IS A LOT LIKE TOUZAN." WHAT IS THIS RESEMBLANCE THEY SPEAK OF?*

A. THEIR HAIRCUTS (YEARS AGO).

AND NOW, SASAMEKE CONTINUES ON TO PART TWO:

SASANAKI!!

CHECK IT OUT, YO!

ALSO, THE FASHION COLLABORATION OF RYUJIXGOTSUBO,

SCORPION DEATH ROCK DESIGNS

IS STILL GOING ON ★★★

WE'RE GETTIN' SOME EVEN MORE TIZZIGHT DESIGNS AND IDEAS! YAY, DAD! I'M GONNA HIT A HOME RUN TOMORROW!!

SORRY, SASAMEKE MERCHANDISE IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE!? (C

↑↓ SPECIAL THANKS ↓↑↓↑↓

SAMURIZE 侍

YOU LIKE FUTBOL? CHECK THIS! THIS IS MY SPECIAL DESIGN BRAND FOR WESTERNIZED CLOTHES WITH A FUTBOL TOUCH AND SOCCER TOURNAMENT ART DESIGN, "SAMURIZE." THERE MIGHT BE A SASAMEKE COLLAB IN THE WORK! YES, MOM, IT'S TRUE!!

IVTH

A SUNGLASSES BRAND SUPPORTED BY MANY CELEBRITIES. SICK EYEGEAR... LOOK FOR THE CUTE CLOVER LOGO! LIKE GLASSES? CHECK IT!

ALL THE GOTSUBOS LOVE IT!

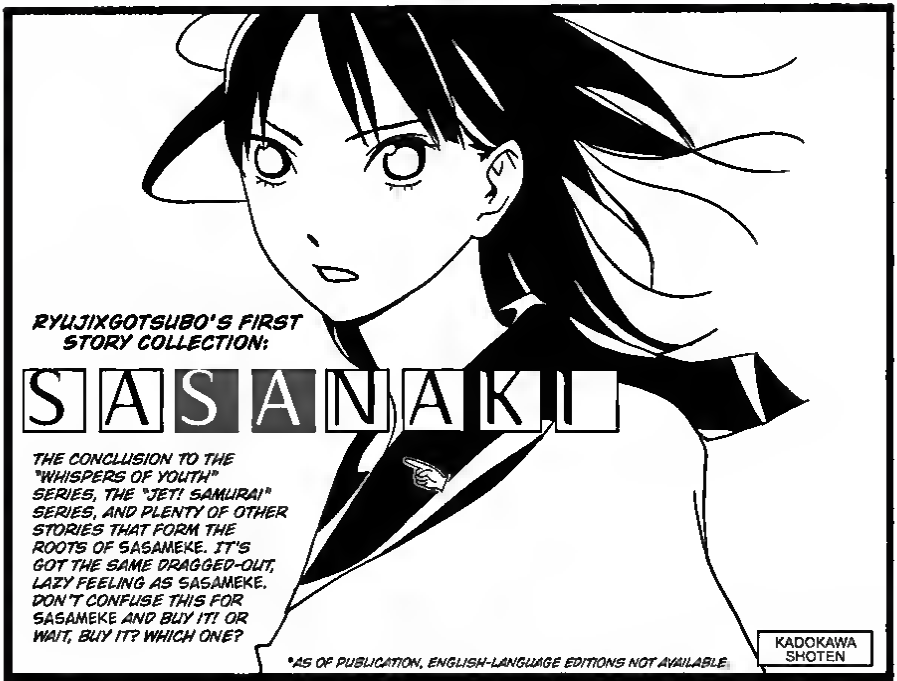
UH, SORRY ABOUT ALL THE DARN TEXT.

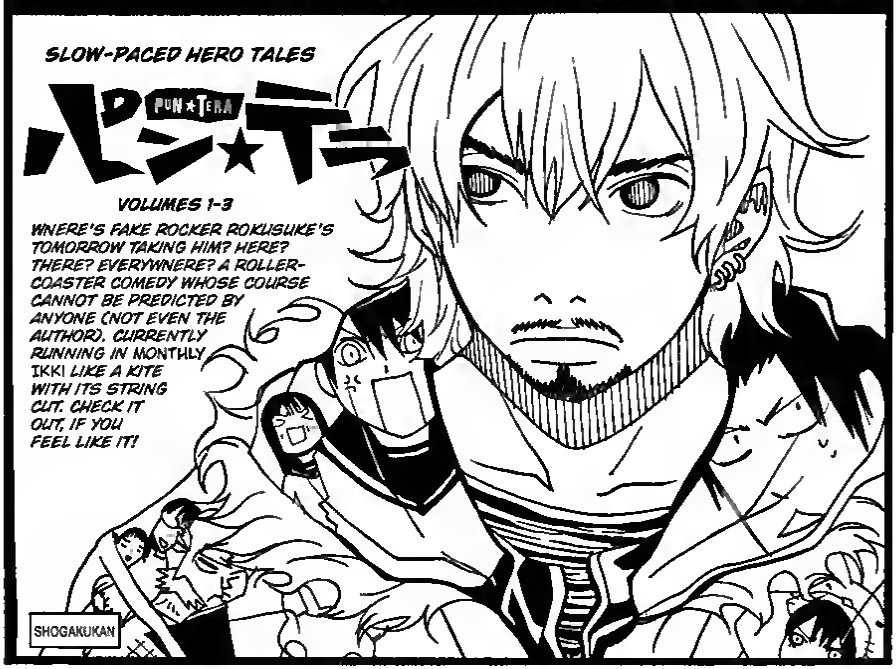
HERE'S MY HOMEPAGE ADDRESS AGAIN.

http://www.52bros.co.jp

(in Japanese)

I'VE GOT THESE BOOKS OUT, TOO.


RYUJIXGOTSUBO'S FIRST STORY COLLECTION:
SASANAKI
THE CONCLUSION TO THE "WHISPERS OF YOUTH" SERIES, THE "JET! SAMURAI" SERIES, AND PLENTY OF OTHER STORIES THAT FORM THE ROOTS OF SASAMEKE. IT'S GOT THE SAME DRAGGED-OUT, LAZY FEELING AS SASAMEKE. DON'T CONFUSE THIS FOR SASAMEKE AND BUY IT! OR WAIT, BUY IT? WHICH ONE?
*AS OF PUBLICATION, ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EDITIONS NOT AVAILABLE.
KADOKAWA SHOTEN


SLOW-PACED HERO TALES
PUN★TERA
パン★テラ
VOLUMES 1-3
WHERE'S FAKE ROCKER ROKUSUKE'S TOMORROW TAKING HIM? HERE? THERE? EVERYWHERE? A ROLLER-COASTER COMEDY WHOSE COURSE CANNOT BE PREDICTED BY ANYONE (NOT EVEN THE AUTHOR). CURRENTLY RUNNING IN MONTHLY IKKI LIKE A KITE WITH ITS STRING CUT. CHECK IT OUT, IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT!
SHOGAKUKAN

THE END

MANGA: RYUJI X GOTSUBO

BORN IN 20TH CENTURY, KINKI REGION OF JAPAN.

FAVORITE MIODAY TV PROGRAM FOR HOUSEWIVES: *CHICHINPUIPUI* ON MBS NETWORK.

LEAST FAVORITE FOOO: INVERTEBRATES.

FAVORITE TIGER: ONITSUKA TIGER SNEAKERS.

MG GUNDAM TOY I WANT THEM TO BRING OUT SOON: AT LEAST ACGUY,

HAMBRABI, GEARA OOGA. ALSO ONE WHOSE SILHOUETTE LOOKS

LIKE THE ORIGINAL ZAKU BUT IS MORE LIKE THE F2 ZAKU INSIOE.

ORIGIN ACTION FIGURE I WANT THEM TO BRING OUT SOON: AT LEAST GOUF AND DOM.

FAVORITE BAND: TOKUSATSU.

FAVORITE FLEET: 13TH FLEET.

WANTEO GOOOS: PUIPUI GOOOS!

ARRGH, I WANT TO GO TO OSAKA (FOR MBS) OR KYOTO (EIGAMURA THEME PARK)! OR

AT LEAST TO A PLACE WITH SOME HOT SPRINGS! SOMEWHERE THAT ISN'T HERE!

ANYWAY, I CAN'T BELIEVE MY FIRST MANGA LASTEO FIVE VOLUMES!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU! CONGRATULATIONS!! (?)

STAFF LIST

HELP WITH IDEAS ANO ART AND THIS AND THAT: EVERYONE!

SPASIBO! OBRIGATO! GRACIAS! THANK YOU, EVERYONE! THANK YOU TO THE

VARIOUS BUSINESS AND OFFICE PEOPLE WHO HELPED ME OUT AND DEALT WITH

MY CRAP, ANO SORRY! I MIGHT BE LIKE THIS FOREVER---HOPE YOU CAN STANO ME!

I'LL OO MY BEST TO IMPROVE! ANO MOST OF ALL, THANKS TO YOU WHO BOUGHT

THIS BOOK! IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU! GRATIAS TIBI AGO! (THAT'S LATIN!)

SASAMEKE 2

RYUJI x GOTSUBO

Translation: Stephen Paul

Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

SASAMEKE Volume 3, 4, 5 © RYUJI GOTSUBO 2003,2004.
Edited by KADOKAWA SHOTEN
First published in Japan in 2003,2004 by KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo.
English translation rights arranged with KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo, through TUTTLE-MORI AGENCY, INC., Tokyo.

English translation © 2011 Hachette Book Group, Inc.

Application Copyright ©2010 by Hachette Book Group, Inc.

All rights reserved. In accordance with the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, the scanning, uploading, and electronic sharing of any part of this book without the permission of the publisher is unlawful piracy and theft of the author's intellectual property. If you would like to use material from the book (other than for review purposes), prior written permission must be obtained by contacting the publisher at permissions@hbgusa.com. Thank you for your support of the author's rights.

Yen Press
Hachette Book Group
237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017

www.HachetteBookGroup.com
www.YenPress.com

Yen Press is an imprint of Hachette Book Group, Inc.
The Yen Press name and logo are trademarks of Hachette Book Group, Inc.

The publisher is not responsible for websites (or their content) that are not owned by the publisher.

First Yen Press ebook Edition: March 2012

ebook ISBN: 978-0-316-22749-0

App ISBN: 978-0-316-22750-6